

A NEW
TREATISE
ON THE
STONE.

CONTAINING

The Causes both remote and immediate. The
INDICATIONS, COUNTER-INDICATIONS, and
the PROGNOSTICK.

WITH

An exact ANALYSIS of the different PRE-
PARATIONS of Mrs. STEPHEN'S MEDICINES,
to prove that it cannot be a SPECIFIC for the STONE.

By the *CHEVALIER de COËTLOGON*,
Knight of St. Lazare, and Member of the Royal Academy of Angers.



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A NEW
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STONE.

 BEFORE I enter upon an exact *Analysis*, or *Examen* of the different Qualities, Virtues, Properties, Effects, &c. of all the Ingredients, whereof Mrs. Stephens's Medicine is composed; to prove it can't be a *Specifick* for the *Stone* (and to under, at the same Time, my Readers capable, of themselves, to judge pertinently of it, or hinder them from accusing me of Partiality) I think it not improper, to give them a general Idea of the Causes, Indications, Contra-Indications, &c. of a Malady, attended with such cruciating Pains, that it is not surprizing, if the Patient
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be forced to have Recourse even to the most insignificant *Nostrums*, which are represented to him as capable of relieving him; and that I may proceed with some Order, I'll begin by a short anatomical Description of all the Parts chiefly afflicted by the Stone, or Gravel, which are the Kidneys, Vessels, and Bladder.

ANATOMICAL DESCRIPTION of the KIDNEYS.

THERE are two Kidneys in an human Body, both placed in the lower Belly, or *Abdomen*; the right Kidney is situated under the Liver, the left between the Spleen and *Musculus Lumbaris*, and both under the Duplicature of the *Peritonæum*.

They have each two Membranes, one common from the *Peritonæum*, and the other proper from the exterior Coat of the Blood-Vessels. By their external Membrane they adhere to the Loins; by the Blood-Vessels to the Cava and Aorta; and by the Ureters to the Substance of the Kidneys, which are a Texture, or rather Congeries of Blood-Vessels, Glands, and excretory Ducts. They receive their Blood-Vessels from the Cava and Aorta, by Means of the Emulgents. The emulgent Artery, by its numberless Ramifications throughout the whole Substance of the Kidneys, supplies it with Blood from the Aorta; and, after infinite Convulsions, terminate itself in Glands of a globular Figure, which compose the cortical Part of the Kidney of about half an Inch thick, and of a Liver Colour. From each of these Glands issue out the *Tubuli Belliniani*, which extend themselves toward the Pelvis of the Kidneys, form the *Papillæ*, adjoining to which is the *Fistula Membranacea*, through which the Urine is emptied into the Pelvis, that it might be discharged by the Ureters into the Bladder.

The Blood remaining after the Secretion of the Urine, is carried back to the Heart, by the minute capillary Veins, which arise from the Extremities of the
arterial

arterial Branches, being inclosed in the same Capsular with the Artery, going out where it enters, and terminating at the Cava.

There are likewise a great Number of muscular Fibers in the Mechanism of the Kidneys; which is a plain Demonstration, that they are not appointed by Nature for the Secretion of the Urine only; but also for the Expulsion, or Discharge of any concreted Matter that may lodge in their Substance, even without the Help of Medicine; and which is an evident Proof that the Kidneys are as well active as passive Machines in an human Body; contrary to the erroneous Opinions of those who believe them placed there only for to give a Vent to the serous Part of the Blood; having no Power to open its Treasure, or extract its Principles, otherwise than by Filtration.

Description of the PELVIS, and of the URETERS.

FROM the Substance of the Kidneys, and without mentioning the other Parts, which have no Relation to our present Purposes, as the Glandula Renalis, &c. I proceed to the Description of the Pelvis, which is a Basin, or Cavity in the Middle of the Kidney, which arises from a Diffention of the Ureter.

There are two Ureters, or long, small, and membranous Pipes, of the Bigness of a Goose-Quill, tho' of an unequal Diameter in their Cavity, to convey the Urine from the Pelvis; into which they pierce, on each side its Neck, with oblique Insertions. Their Obstruction will cause a Suppression of Urine, and either being affected, will excite a Strangury.

The Description of the VESICA URINARIA, or
BLADDER.

THE Vesica Urinaria, or Bladder, is composed of three Membranes, the uttermost Common, from the Peritonæum, and the two others Proper. The middle one is composed of carnous Fibres, both Longitudinal and Circular; by the Action of the Longitudinal, the Fund of the Bladder is press'd forward toward the Os Pubis, from whose lower Part they arise, as well as from the fore Part of the *Prostatæ*; while the Circular ones, by lessening its Dimensions, procure the Discharge of Urine.

The inward Membrane is nervous, and of an exquisite Sense; and therefore it would be subject to many more Accidents, was it not fenced on all Sides, with a vast Number of Glands, against the Acrimony of the Urine. The *Sphincter Vesicæ*, is a Muscle placed at the Neck of the Bladder, which by keeping it constantly closed, hinders the involuntary Emission of Urine.

The Bladder is a Kind of *Reservoir*, which receives the Urine of the Kidneys, that it might not be evacuated against our Consent; for which Purpose, Nature has joined to it the main excretory Vessel, or Pipe, called *Urethra*; which being as tender as the inward Membrane of the Bladder, she has lined it in the same Manner with small Glands, to avoid the frequent Dangers it otherwise might be exposed to.

The Bladder and Urethra receive into their Composition Veins and Arteries from the *Epigastricks* and *Iliack Nerves* and from the Pelvis of the *Abdomen*.

This short, though very necessary anatomical Description of the urinary Organs, thus established, will not be improper, before we attempt to discover the Causes of the Maladies which affect those Parts, especially of the Stone and Gravel, to give likewise an Idea of the Nature of the Urine; its Properties, Quality and its constituent Principles; since from the Depravation

and ill Habit of that Fluid, after its Separation from the Blood in the Kidneys, proceed all Stones, Gravel, and fabulous Concretions.

DEFINITION of the URINE.

THE Urine is an elementary Water, separated from the Blood in the Kidneys, and impregnated with both acid and alkaline Salts. The Accurateness of this definition is evidently demonstrated, by the daily Experiments of our Chymists upon that Fluid, from whence is extracted; 1st, a flegmatick and insipid lymph. 2d. A volatile Spirit. 3d. An acid Salt. 4th. Sulphur. 5th. Very little Oil, except in a *Cacoimous* Constitution. 6th. And some fixed Salt, which afford its earthly Sediments.

Reason alone, without the Assistance of Chymistry, may convince us that Urine is Elementary; since its principles are inclosed in those Mixtures, which serve for our Aliments, and which participate likewise of the same Elements; and the more one of those Elements is predominant in the Aliments we like most, the more is our Urine impregnated with the Principles of that Element, viz. If we prefer Pickles, Roots, Fruits, &c. to any other Food; or Cyder, Water, or any other flegmatick Liquor, to spirituous ones, our Urine is then clear, limpid, and, if put to the Alembick, affords very little Spirits, or volatile Salt, a great Deal of phlegm, and a considerable Quantity of fixed Salt, or rather what the Chymists call *Caput Mortuum*.

However, it would be a gross Error, to pretend, that the different Qualities of the Urine, proceed entirely from the different Qualities of the Elements; since when the ferment of the Stomach, is more or less capable to perform its Functions, the different Qualities of the Pancreatick Juice, and of the other Juices, employed by Nature to perfect the Chyle, the different Changes, or Mutations the Blood acquires in its Circulation; but,
above

above all, the Imbecillity, or the just Harmony subsisting between the urinary Organs, alter the Urine.

Another Error no less to be condemned, is to believe that the Quantity of the Urine proceeds always from the Quantity of the Liquor we drink; since Experience convinces us of the contrary. The more is our Constitution weak or strong, hot or phlegmatick, the Urine is more or less abundant. In a weak Constitution the Pores of the Body being more open'd and relaxed, Part of the Lympha, which should have separated from the Blood in the Kidneys, is evacuated by Sweat, or insensible Perspiration, even in a hot Constitution, though perhaps very strong, Parts of the Lympha is consumed by the excessive Heat of the Body.

I am not of the Opinion of some Physicians, who pretend that the Evacuation of the *Serum* by excessive Sweats, diminishes always the Quantity of the Urine since I have seen, in some Subjects, a very large Evacuation of Urine, after an excessive Sweat; neither would their frivolous Reasons, that the Blood being impoverish'd and spoiled of the Spirits which must facilitate its regular Circulation, and, consequently, say they, deprive it of the Strength necessary to force its Passage through the complicated arterial Branches of the Kidneys, will ever make me alter my Sentiments, since the Vessels of the urinary Organs admit of a Relaxation in their Parts, though not so sensible a one as the Cutaneous Glands; and that it is agreeable to the strictest Rules of *Anatomy*, to think that, in such excessive Secretions of the *Serum* from the Blood, it must flow in a greater Quantity through its ordinary and natural Conduits, or Pipes, than otherwise, especially when the *Serum* is *superabundant*.

That the *Serum*, evacuated by Urine, or Sweats, is the same with that of the Blood, is apparent by the *Serum* which swims upon the Blood extracted by *Phlebotomy* of the same Consistence, Colour and Taste of Urine.

Causes of the different Colours of the URINE.

THE different Colours of the Urine have different Causes; the Crudity, or Watery Colour of the Urine, without either Sediment or Cloud on the Surface, proceeds from the Crudity and Imbecillity of the Solvent of the Stomach, in the Coction of the Aliments; which being imperfectly separated, a considerable Part of their most sulphurous and volatile Particles, is left and carried off with the gross *Excrements*. The Colour of a deep Orange Colour, with a brickish Sediment, proceeds from an imperfect Separation of the different Fluids wherewith the Substance of the Food is composed; or a Dissolution of the nourishing Juices, which through the Relaxation of the *urinary Vessels* are evacuated together with the Serum through the ordinary Passage of the Urine; that Colour arising from the oleaginous Particles of those Juices, wherewith the rarified Pores of the Urine are fill'd, which causes an imperfect Separation, and changes the Refraction into oblique Reflection.

different Qualities of the URINE, from the Difference of the Constitution of the Body.

THOSE are not entirely mistaken, who pretend to discover the Constitution of the Body, by the Inspection of the Urine; though I would not pretend to approve the ridiculous, knavish, and monstrous Conduct of those Quacks, who the better to impose on the Credulity of the Vulgar, and cozen them of their Money, pretend to judge pertinently of the Constitution of a Person, or to form a just Prognostick of a Malady from the Inspection of Urine, poured into distill'd Vessels, and carried often many Miles in a Bottle. The Urine being an Excrement divested of those

Spirits.

Spirits which should keep its Motion, and the little volatile Salt it contains, being wrapt in a predominant Quantity of Phlegm and terrestrial Particles, it must necessarily tend to Corruption, and acquire by those Transmutations and Motions, the same Qualities with that which has been kept for the Space of Four and twenty Hours in a Glass from which no Body would attempt to form a Prognostick. Besides, this is rather worse since the Sediment, if there be any, is irregular, and the Texture of the Particles, without which no Indication can be expected, entirely broken; therefore nothing more can be discerned than the most terrestrial Particles, and the other Bodies it might contain, which by their natural Gravity are carried to the Bottom of the Glass, such as Sand, Gravel, &c.

The same cannot be said of the Urine, which has experienced no other Motion than from the *Urethra* in the Vessel; which settles gradually by the gradual Evaporation of the Spirits, which kept the different Principles it is composed with, in a Ferment; for then a Physician, by the Inspection of such Urine, can easily judge of the Constitution of his Patient, and of the Nature of his Distemper.

General Rules to discover the Constitution of Patient by his URINE.

THE general Rules to discover the Constitution of a Person by his Urine, are these.

1. A thin, clear, and flameous Urine, overstock'd with Salts denote a bilious Constitution; since the Bile, one of the Substances, which enter into the Composition of the Blood, the most impregnated, with igneous Particles, where it predominates, infallibly communicates to the Blood a greater Volatility, without a Rarefaction of the Phlegm, and an extraordinary Exaltation of the saline Particle, diffused thro' the whole Mass of Blood, Part of which can't avoid being carried away by the Secretion of the Urine.

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2. Persons of a sanguine, healthy Constitution make, generally an Urine of a deep amber Colour, with a reddish Menstruum, and a sulphurous Sediment full of right sandy Gravel.

3. The Urine of a phlegmatick Constitution, is thick and heavy, with a whitish, earthy Sediment, occasion'd by the Scarcity of the Spirits so absolutely necessary to give a regular Motion to the Fluids. Such Constitution is more subject to the Stone, or Gravel, than the two other; because the Coolness of the Stomach, leaves the Chyle overloaded with earthy and phlegmatick Particles, which should have been carried with the gross Excrements, in the first Separation, and blunt the Activity of the Bile, and of the *Pancreatic* Juice. The Fluids, render'd slow in their Motions, by being overburthen'd with that Phlegm, stop in the passage; and the Kidneys, render'd likewise *Aduſt* by the repeated Efforts they make for the Excretion of the Serum, condense it to such a Degree, as to reduce it to sandy and gravellous Consistence.

This brings me naturally into a strict Inquiry of the efficient Cause of the Concretion, of the constituent Principles of the Gravel and Stone, and of the manner of their Formation in both the Kidneys and Bladder.

The Causes of the STONE and GRAVEL, and their Formation in the KIDNEYS and BLADDER.

RIVERRIUS admits for the two remote Causes of sandy and gravellous Substance in the Kidneys, the Coldness of the Stomach and the Heat of the Reins, which Opinion I have mentioned in the preceeding Article; and in that he seems to agree with some modern Physicians, with this Difference, that they find that cause, which they call predisposing, in the Imbecillity, Relaxation of the Fibres of the urinary Organs, and sign for Reason thereof that it would be impossible

that Stones or Gravel should be generated in the Kidney or Bladder, were not the Tone of those Organs impaired by their Fibres being depriv'd of their natural Elasticity which render them incapable of expelling that phlegmatic and glutinous Matter which has lodged itself in their Cavity, and oppose their Concretion: For, so long as they, while the whole *Microcosm* continues in its just Harmony, while the whole Machine preserves the same regular Motion, all its Springs will be equally capable to resist or oppose, all that could disturb their OEconomy.

Others reject that Opinion, and search the remote Causes of the Stone and Gravel in the Quality and Quantities of the Aliments, and believe that an Epicurean who minded nothing else, but how to load his Stomach with the most delicious Viands, is more commonly subject to the Stone and Gravel, than those that eat and drink with Discretion, and Frugality. To support this Sentiment, they alledge, that the more delicious our Aliments are, the more they are charged with earthy and saline Particles, which meeting in the Blood, with the igneous *Arcanum* the first Principle of its Activity, are condensed together, and form a Kind of Coagulum, or tenacious Phlegm, which retards its Circulation, and which being with much Difficulty separated by the Secretion, from its Substance, and wanting the Fluidity necessary for speedy Evacuation, stops in the Passage so long as to become concreted or obdured, by the Heat of the Reins. It must not be supposed that this glutinous Matter, which settles in the urinary Organs is very voluminous, for then in a very short Space of Time it would cause a total Obstruction, it increases only by Degrees, and even Part of it is carried off by the Fluidity of the Serum, especially when it flows with some Impetuosity, thro' the natural Evacuation, often without the least Pain; for that sand Substance is some Time almost impalpable, or of so little Volume that it rolls with the Urine without the least Tension of the Vessel, some of them larger, causes momentaneous Obstruction attended with some Pain by being forced thro' the Passage, by the Impetuosity of the Urine, which Sentiment destroys entirely the System of those, who place the immediate Cause of the Gravel

Gravel in the attractive Faculty of the saline Particles, or Corpuscles of our Aliments, therewith the Urine is impregnated: For if those Corpuscles have that magnetick Virtue, it must be an occult one, which is the same as nothing, or by Effluvioms. But how can it be by Effluvium, since the Atmosphere absolutely necessary betwixt the two Bodies for the *Concatenation* of the Corpuscles flowing from each of them, to create the Attraction, must be unavoidably broken, by the overflowing of the Urine; and if that Salt has that attractive Quality, why so often a sandy Substance in the Kidneys, and evacuated by the Urine, without being ever conglomerated, into a Gravel or Stone? Is then that attractive Quality, *ad Libitum*, or naturally inherent in that Salt? If it be naturally inherent it must always produce the same Effect; if *ad Libitum*; I suppose it often *Dormient* as well as its Assertors.

To demonstrate more evidently that supposed attractive Virtue in their Salt, they have Recourse to some Experiment to prove, 1. That there are saline Corpuscles in the Texture of the Gravel, or Stone; which no Body has ever objected against, since there are no Mixt in the whole Creation without its Salt, both volatile and fixed; but above all our Substance which *abounds* with saline *Corpuscles*. 2. That it has really an attractive Faculty; which is evidently apparent in the Dissolution of the Gravel or Stone reduced into an impalpable Powder, in warm Water, which Water is immediately impregnated with saline Corpuscles, from whence they conclude, that every gravelly Corpuscle, has a saline Corpuscle for its Center; no doubt but it may have such Center; but how will this Experiment prove the attractive Faculty of that Center? Must not that very same saline Corpuscle, be diffused thro' the whole Substance of the Urine, since they cannot be brought into the Kidney, otherwise than by that Vehicle? If so, why should not that attractive saline Corpuscle left in the Ureters or Kidnies, have the same Activity towards all the other Corpuscles *homogeneous* to them? Why does the Urine remain impregnated with such Quantity of the very same

saline Corpuscles, after the Evacuation, as its evident by its brackish Taste, and its *Analysis* in the *Alembick*? Or is it because that central Corpuscule, borrows its Activity from its different Positions, and directed toward its Poles, like the Loadstone, before it might be able to use that attractive Faculty; but if the Position is of no Signification towards it, which must be those refractory ones which scornfully despise intimate Affinity; and which is not the whole saline Substance of the Urine petrified?

*The real immediate Cause of the GRAVEL in the
KIDNEYS.*

THE Gravel in the Kidneys proceed from a viscid and tenacious Phlegm, separated from the Substance of the Blood, and secreted with the Serum through the Vessels of the Kidneys, and carried from the *Tubuli Belliani* and the *Papillæ* into the *Pelvis*, where, by its Adhesion to the internal Membrane and by the Heat of the Reins, its obdurate and concreted sometimes into an almost impalpable Sandy Substance, easily carried away by Urine, and without the least Pain; and sometime into a Gravel or Sand of a bigger Volume, which Gravel being of a viscous Substance in their first Formation when in some Quantity, by their Collision occasion'd by the Fluidity of the Urine, are often conglomerated together, and form that voluminous one, call'd *Stone*.

If it be ask'd why that viscous and earthy Substance does not follow the Rapidity of the Urine, in its entire Evacuation through the Ureters, Bladder and Urethra, as well as its Secretion through the Vessels of the Kidneys? I answer, that they are forced in the Secretion by a strong Impulsion of the *Arcanum*, diffused through the whole Mass of the Blood, from which it is separated, and by the Compression of the secretory Vessels; that finding a larger Capacity in the *Pelvis* and deprived of that Impulsion which could likewise

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force it through the *Ureters*, it is carried by its natural Gravity, like any other heavy Body thrown into a Vessel full of Water, to the Bottom of the *Pelvis*, or rather like *Limus Fluvialis*, adhere to the Side of that Part where it acquires its Concretion.

If it be ask'd likewise, why that Matter, being in the same Quantity, is not always concreted in the same Manner? I'll answer again, that though, in all Appearance, the same Substance, it has, however, very often different Qualities; and that the less viscous, produces always a less voluminous sandy Substance, which Substance is often so friable, that by their Collision, in being continually roll'd by the Fluidity of the Urine, they are resolved into almost impalpable Sand: But when, on the contrary they surabund with glutinous and tenacious Corpuscles, they are, by that Collision, joined together, as I have already mentioned; and, in Process of Time, form a Stone of a considerable Bigness, though seldom exceeding in its Volume a small Bean, and is often reduced to its former State of Sand or Gravel by the same Means they had been accumulated or concreted together; for when the cataneous Texture of the glutinous Corpuscles which had been the efficient Cause of the Concretion, is broken, which happens when those Corpuscles are in such opposite Positions, as to leave Intervals for any stronger Body to lodge itself in those Intervals, and by its frequent *Secousses*, or Shakings, cause at last a Dissolution; the Overpowering or Rapidity of the Urine giving often the finishing Stroke. In that Wreck of the Stone in the Kidneys, Part of it is always forced thro' the *Ureters*, which Parts being rough, sharp and acute, from the Inequality of their Angles, cause sometimes an Excoriation, with exquisite Pains, and which is apparent by the Urine being dyed with Blood.

This Opinion upon the immediate Causes of the Gravel, or Stone in the Kidneys, does not seem to me otherwise repugnant, to that of those who place the Cause in the Salts, than by depriving that Salt of its pretended magnetick Virtue; for I'll agree with them,
if

if they please, that the saline Corpuscles are the chief Foundation of the Gravel or Stone; but I'll deny, not only their attractive Faculty, but likewise that they are capable of being so intimately united together, as to form so hard a Concretion as is the Gravel or Stone without the Help of viscous and earthly Corpuscles obdurate by some Heat. The Urine itself, by its continually flowing through the urinary Vessels, would hinder that Concretion coming to any Solidity, as it appears in the *Saline Marches* in *France*, where the smallest Rain will destroy the best Concretion of Salt and by daily Experience, when a small Quantity of Water will destroy a greater Quantity of Salt without the Corpuscles of that Salt separated by the continual Rotation of the globular Corpuscles of the Water being capable to attract each other for a Concretion without the Help of the Fire, by an Evaporation which reunite those Salts, in their Condensation, with some Earth and Phlegm.

Neither can it be objected, that this *Magnetick Salt* which serves for the Formation of the Gravel or Stone is entirely different from our common Salt; for it is given *pro Confesso*, that it is almost the same as our common Salt *Armoniack*, and we know that it suffers the same Changes with our common Salt, and admit of a Dissolution into Water.

The Generation of the STONE in the BLADDER.

SOME of our modern Authors, especially the *Gentlemen* of the *Magnet*, charmed to have so favourable an Occasion to let the World know they have studied *des Cartes* and *Newton*, are resolved to follow no other Principles, right or wrong, or speak any other Dialect than that of those two famous Philosophers. I wish they could likewise forbear laming the Principles of those two illustrious Men, or depriving them of their natural Light by their prolix Discourses and tedious Repetitions.

Repetitions; for what signifies making three or four Chapters of a Subject, which might be treated in two or three Pages? They know no other Cause of the Generation of the Stone in the Bladder, than the same magnetick Salt, which causes it in the Kidneys; and they employ half a Book to endeavour to convince us of that ridiculous Opinion, which is entirely repugnant to our Reason and our common Experience. That attractive Salt might have pass'd, perhaps, at least with more Appearance of Truth, for the Center, or the *Arcanum* of the Gravel in the Kidneys, since those Parts being a great deal narrower than the Bladder, a Corpuscle of that Salt being left in the Vessels of the Kidneys for a Center for the Gravel; might chance to hook in *en passant* some of its Kindred; but in the Bladder, which is of a far greater Capacity, and seldom or never without a tolerable Quantity of Urine, which rest there without any Motion, till discharged through the *Urethra*, how can that saline Corpuscle escape a Dissolution, in so large a Quantity of Fluid? But those Gentlemen don't mind it; they will have that magnetick saline Carpuscle for the Center, or rather, the immediate Cause of the Stone in the Bladder, as well as in the Kidneys; but how can they be able to fix that Corpuscle in a Place so that it might attract all the other Corpuscles *homogeneous* to itself, to form of it a Concret of the Figure of a Stone, since it is a commonly received Truth, confirm'd by Experience, as I have already demonstrated, that those saline Corpuscles are not only diffused through the whole Substance of the Water, but also are seen like a Cream upon its superficies, especially if the Water be without Motion, and continue so till it is agitated by the Wind, or some other Accident, which it's impossible to be effected in the Bladder.

They'll say, perhaps, that it is done by the Evacuation of the Urine, which, if not entirely evacuated, the small Quantity left afterwards is not capable to hinder the Concretion; but is the Interval between the evacuation through the *Urethra* and the Supply the Bladder

Bladder receives from the Ureters, long enough to allow a sufficient Time to those saline Corpuscles for the Concretion, or rather Petrification? Or does not the fresh Supply of Urine dissolve, or destroy the Texture of the first Concretion, which cannot be accomplished so soon in the Bladder, where especially it cannot be assisted in that Concretion, where the Coolness of the Organ, or by its natural Warmth, or by that of the vicinal Parts? Those learned Authors provide, nevertheless, against all those Inconveniences, by marshalling contrary to the Order of Nature, and the true Principles of a rational Philosophy, those homogeneous saline Corpuscles into many Battalions, making some march to form the Body, and the others the different Coats of the Stone; as if it was possible for the Corpuscle, placed by them for the Center, to have an attractive and repulsive Faculty both, and at the same Time, toward the same homogeneous Corpuscle? In vain to confirm this Opinion do they alledge, that were not the Corpuscles of the Urine to observe such exact Discipline in their Separation, they could never form the different Coats of the Stone in so exact a Manner; since we find every Day Stone and Pebbles, whose Coats far surpass in their Exactness and Cymetry, the Stones of the Kidneys or Bladder; though our Authors would not pretend to advance that such Stones or Pebbles are formed otherwise than *per Congeriem*, or by the natural Gravity or Propensity of the Corpuscles to their Center.

Without the magnetick Virtue of the Center, and the exact Discipline which the Corpuscles, designed for the Formation of the Stone, must observe in their March, those Gentlemen would fain make us believe that it would be impossible to account for the different *Phænomena* of the Stone, *viz.* Why some of its Coats seem thinner than others, or not so closely attach'd to the *Nucleus*? For my Part, I think it might be answered without the least Hesitation, and according to our Principles; that as it cannot be supposed that the Stone is formed all at once, or that our Urine is always impregnated with an equal Quantity of viscid, phlegmatic

matick and earthy Corpuscles; therefore, as at each Evacuation of the Urine, a new Coat is added to the *Nucleus*, the less the Urine evacuated is loaded with those Corpuscles, the Coat or Strata must be consequently thinner; and when the glutinous Matter is dried and condensed by the Heat of the Kidneys, the less vehement is that Heat, the less are the Corpuscles condensed, and the less is the Texture of the Strata or Coat.

Besides, it cannot be imagined, that Nature would take so much Pains, or use so much Art, in the Formation of a strange Body, which is a Burthen to the organick Parts, disturbs the Harmony which should subsist between them, obstructs their Functions, and threatens the whole Microcosm with its entire Dissolution.

It results, from what I have said already, that the Stone in the Bladder proceeds from two Principles, or Causes: 1st. From the *Nucleus*, or rather Gravel, formed in the Kidneys, and by the Impetuosity of the Urine, and the Impulsion of the *Column* of Air, forced through the Ureters into the Bladder. 2d. From the viscid and earthy Corpuscles which have escaped the Separation in the Kidneys, which, by staying longer in the Bladder than in other urinary Vessels, have Time to conglomerate themselves with the *Nucleus*, and to form out of it a far more voluminous Body.

It might be objected that if the Stones proceed from the Viscosity of the Urine, when once a Stone has been extracted, another would soon supply its Place; and consequently it would be needless for the Patient to expose himself to the dangerous Accidents, or undergo the excruciating Tortures of the Operation? To which answer, 1st. That the Extraction of the Stone seldom misses being succeeded by the Generation of another; and when it happens otherwise, it proceeds from the extraordinary Dilatation of the urinary Vessels in the first Evacuation of the Stone; in which the *Caruncule Papillares*, are often broken, leaving thereby a more free Passage to the viscid and tenacious Lymph of the Urine, which, through the Imbecillity of the Organs,

admit of no Separation. 2. 'Tis supposed the momentaneous Torture of the Operation is nevertheless preferable to the too frequent excruciating Pains of the Stone, and the subsequent Accidents not quite so dangerous as those of an entire Obstruction of the Passage which must infallibly happen, if the Operation be neglected. Besides, the Interval between the Extraction of a Stone, and the Generation of another, so as to grow equally dolorous, must be of great Ease to the Patient.

It cannot be reasonably expected that the Patient should always be entirely cured by the Extraction of the Stone, till proper Remedies are found to take of the remote Causes of the Distemper, by restoring the Tone of the Stomach, and cooling the vehement Heat of the Reins; unless, also, the Vessels have been so dilated, as to be render'd quite imbeciles for the Secretion; for then, altho' the remotest Causes or Focus of the Stone remain, and the Urine continues to be impregnated with the same Quantity of viscus and earthy Corpuscles, being no more interrupted in their March, by the Narrowness of the Organs, they follow the Impetuosity of the Urine in the Evacuation: And if, by the Urine staying longer in the Bladder, than in any other of the urinary Organs, there happens a Concretion, it is but a sandy and almost impalpable one, easily evacuated without the least Pain; which *Phenomenum* destroys entirely the whole System of those who admit of a magnetick Vertue in the saline Corpuscles of the Urine for the Formation of the Stone in the Kidneys or Bladder; for if the Secretion is hinder'd in the Kidneys, by the extraordinary Dislocation of the Organs, and thereby the saline Corpuscles, which used to form the Nucleus, are left in the Urine, they are not however deprived of their Qualities, and have Time enough, while the Urine stays in the Bladder, before it can be evacuated through the *Urethra*, to direct themselves to their Poles, and work each other so as to form a *Nucleus*, or Basis for another Stone; and therefore a Patient would never be free from it, till the Tone of the Stomach could be entirely repaired. Neither can it be objected, that

that the same might be said of my *System*; since, by my admitting the viscous Flegm of the Urine for the immediate Cause of the Stone, when once, for Want of excretion, that Phlegm is left mixt with the Lymph of the Urine, and deprived of that extraordinary Heat admitted by me as absolutely necessary for its Condensation, not to be met with but in the Reins, it is impossible it should form a *Nucleus* in the Bladder, which is a temperate Body, little susceptible of any extraordinary Heat; and if those viscous and earthy Corpuscles are, by their Gravity, directed to any Part of the Bladder, the continual Motion of the limphatick Corpuscles, occasion'd by their globular Form, hinders them from conglomerating together, so as to form a *Nucleus*.

The Causes of the Differences of the STONE, as to their Volume, Density, Colour, Number, &c.

WE are convinced, by a continual Experience, that the Stones differ in their Density, Volume, or Magnitude, in their Form, Colour and Number; and all the Authors who have wrote on the Subject have endeavour'd to assign a Reason, true or apparent for that Difference.

Those who have fixed the immediate Causes of the Stones in the Attraction, Direction, and Repression of the saline Corpuscles secreted from the Urine, assign'd for the different Density of the Stones, the different position of the Corpuscles thus attracted to their Center, or *Nucleus*, arising from their different Gravity or Velocity with which they meet each other in their various Occursions, pretending that their Contract or Cohesion is less, where the Rapidity of their Motion is greater; that there is a continual Repulsion, and therefore never can meet together so as to form a Concert of any Density, wherever their Motion, or that of the Aqueous Menstruum, wherein they are suspended, over-balance their Propensity to contract; and if their attractive over-

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ballance their repulsive Principles, even then the Density acquired by their few Contacts is so loose, as not to be properly call'd Density; since by the Rapidity or overflowing of the Urine it might be dissolved.

The different Density of the Stones, is by others attributed to the different Figures of their constituent Parts; in so much that the Parts which afford a greater Number of Contacts, as those of a Cubic Figure produce the harder Stone; since where there are a greater Number of Contacts there is a greater Closeness of the Corpuscles, and therefore a greater Firmness and Density in the Body they compose; which cannot be said of the Corpuscles of a spherical Figure, which having but very few Contacts, render the Texture of the Stone less compact and more brisly.

Those two Sentiments, tho' of a modern Invention and so little different from each other, seem to me entirely opposite to the received Rules of Gravitation, Attraction, Direction, and Repulsion; for it must be supposed that those Corpuscles have their Gravity of themselves, or borrow it from the Impulsion of the adjacent Parts; if from themselves they must be carried by a natural Propensity to their Center; if from the adjacent Parts, it is by the Compression of the Column of Air perpendicular to them, or by the Impulsion proceeding from the Fluidity of the globulous Corpuscles of the watery *Menstruum*, in which they should swim. If by the Impulsion of the Column of the Air perpendicular to them, they must be precipitated to their Center with no less Velocity, than they should be by their natural Gravity, since it cannot be supposed that the Column of Water opposite to it could resist the Compression especially so far as to keep the Corpuscles long enough suspended in the watery *Menstruum*, as to give them Time to direct themselves to their Poles, for their Attraction and Repulsion. Since we see daily that the smallest Body, indued with the least Gravity falling as considerable a Body of Water, as can be supposed the Bladder, and with as little Motion, is immediately precipitated to the Bottom: But suppose even that those

Corpuscles

Corpuscles could be kept long enough on the Surface to direct themselves to their Poles, as they cannot act but by the *Effluvia*, as well from the attracted, as from the attracting Parts, which must form an Atmosphere between both, how can that Atmosphere subsist in a watery Menstruum, which, by its Fluidity, must break the Continuity, without which it cannot be either Attraction, Direction, or Repulsion; besides, the globulous Corpuscles of the Water must fill the Pores of those Bodies, and hinder the Emission of the *Effluvia*.

Real Causes of the different Density of the STONES.

THE Density of the Stones proceeds from the Equality of their compounding Parts, as well as from the Graduation of the Heat in the Part they are form'd; or if the viscous and renacious Corpuscles which enter into the Composition of the Stone, exceed in Quantity the saline and earthy ones, if the Heat is moderate, the Stone being indurated by Degrees, grows harder than that formed with Precipitation by the extraordinary Vehemency of the Heat; therefore we have no Need to look for any other Reason of the different Density of the Stone form'd in the Kidneys, from that form'd in the Bladder, since the Vehemency of the Heat of the Kidneys evaporating with too much Precipitation the Impulse of the viscous Corpuscles, fill the Vacancy with igneous Particles, which causes a great Inequality in the Tacts of the compounding Parts of the Stone, and thereby render it lighter and more brittle than that form'd in the Bladder, whose Heat being always tempered by some Quantity of watery Menstruum, acts gradually, and makes no other use of its igneous Corpuscles, than as of so many Hammers, which working always at one equal Distance, draw likewise the compounding Parts of the Stone to an Equality of Tacts, and

and leaving no Intervales betwixt, the Stone grows harder, and more compact.

The WEIGHT of the STONES.

THE Weight of the Stones does not proceed from their Bigness, or the Largeness of their Volume, but from the Closeness of their compunding Parts, and the Exactness of their Taſts. There is as much Difference in their Weight as there is in their Volume; the bigger they are, the more difficult and dangerous is the Operation; and the more frequent and excruciating are the Paroxifms they occasion. The biggest I ever ſaw, is one kept at the *Charity*, an Hoſpital at *Paris*; it weighed, when extracted, one and fifty Ounces. It cannot be reaſonably expected, that the Stones ſhould be always of the ſame Size and Weight; their Difference, in that, proceeds often from the Capacity of the Parts wherein they are formed, or from the Abundance or Scarcity of the Matter they are form'd with. In Children, for Example, whoſe urinary Organs are of a narrower Compaſs, and whoſe Stomach is not ſo much imbecillitated as to load the Blood with a vaſt Quantity of viſcous Phlegm, the Stones never exceed the Bigness of an Apricock Stone: In Men they often exceed a large Egg; and what's the more ſurprizing, is, that in ſome Conſtitutions they are not long before they grow to that Bigness. I knew a Taylor, in *Holles-ſtreet*, *Clare-Market*, who had a Stone extracted which weigh'd ſix Ounces; and, four Years after, had another weigh'd eight; which cannot be attributed but to the digeſtive Faculty being entirely imbecillitated,

The different COLOURS of the STONE.

THE different Arrangement, Position, or Order of the constituent Parts of the Stone causes their different Colours; but especially the Closeness of the texture of their outward Coat; for the more the Corpuscles which enter in the Composition, or rather form that Coat, are uniform in their Angles, they are the closer join'd together, provided the too great Impetuosity of the igneous Particles, proceeding from a vehement Heat, don't disorder their Cimentry, by working that Texture with too much Precipitation: The closer they are joined together, the more compact is their surface; the more compact is their Face, the greater the Reflection of the Light, and the lighter is the colour of the Stone; for if on the contrary, the Stones are spongy, as it happens, when their constituent parts have been assembled together, tumultuously and with too great a Precipitation, by the Impetuosity of the igneous Particles, the Rays of the Light, lodge themselves in the Intervals left between those constituent Parts, which giving but an imperfect and oblique reflection, make the Stone appear of a darker Colour, or their are no real Colours but what proceed from the reflection of the Light, and its a gross Error to believe that each Body has its identical One?

Of the Number of the STONES in the KIDNEYS and BLADDER.

THE Intemperance of the Organs wherein the Stones are formed, render their Number greater or less; for if the Reins, for Example, are affected with præternatural and immoderate Heat, from thence flow continually and with Impetuosity a vast Number of igneous Corpuscles, which seize the viscid, earthy and glutinous

glutinous secreted Phlegm, and as they are quick in the Operation, they formed a Stone or Gravel, before a new Secretion can supply with other Phlegm to enlarge their Volume; but, if on the contrary, the Heat is moderate, and furnishes but a moderate Quantity of igneous Corpuscles, and likewise those temperate in their Action by the watry Menstruum, as does the Refrigeratory of an *Alembick*, they leave Time for other Phlegm, to come and conglomerate itself with those they are working upon, and thereby encrease the Volume of the Stone. The Multiplicity of the Stones proceed likewise often, from the Thinness and Friability of their Texture broken into several Pieces, by the verflowing of the Urine, or some violent Concussion of the Body?

A daily Experience confirm our Opinion, that there is it a considerable Quantity of Stones in the urinary Passage, but I'll never believe those who pretend to have voided Stones by Hunderds, unless they will confess that these are almost imperceptible, or at least very little bigger than the sandy Sediment of the Urine.

When there is a Number of Stones in the Bladder, their Surface is thick or less Spongy than when there is but one; for being continually roll'd against each other by the Fluidity of the watry Menstruum, they polish their Surface and appear like a Piece of Marble.

Symptoms of the PAROXISMS of the NÉPHRICK, when the STONE or GRAVEL does not pass from the KIDNEYS to the BLADDER.

HAVING taken a general View of the urinary Organs (as I judge it necessary for my intended Purpose) and establish'd the Causes both remote and immediate of the Gravel and Stone; it is fit I should speak at present of the different Symptoms of these cruel and dangerous Maladies, but to proceed likewise with some Order, in that necessary and useful Enquiry, I'll begin by the *Diagnostick* of the Gravel and Stone, when it does not pass from the Kidneys into the Bladder.

that thereby, we might be more capable to relieve effectually the Patient in his excruciating Tortures; for as we know perfectly well the different Symptoms which accompany the Gravel or Stone in their different Paroxysms, it is impossible we should form a just prognostick, and apply the necessary Remedies.

The Paroxysm of the Stone, happens, or at the changes of the Season of the Year, or after some violent Exercise, or some Excess of Drinking or Eating, or of some immoderate Pleasure, since those Accidents, by changing the Position of the Stone, causes an extraordinary or unnatural Tension in the Parts, and sometimes an Excoriation where it is the most adherent, was the Stone to keep always the same Situation, let it be ever of so large a Volume, provided it leaves Room for the Evacuation of Urine, it causes little or no Pain, and the Patient scarcely knows when he is afflicted therewith, but by feeling a considerable Weight in the Part.

By the sudden Rarefaction of the Air in the Spring the Atoms of the Atmosphere being more intimate in their Approaches and more coadunated together, give greater Strength to the Column perpendicular to each corpuscle, of the watry Menstruum, which being forced, by their globulous Figure, to give Way to Compression, and by a more precipitate Rotation, in supplying continually each others Place, causing a greater Agitation in the Urine, may thereby give some *Secouses* to the Stones, and causes a Paroxysm, which might also be occasioned by the Air alone, without the watry Menstruum, by its extraordinary Compression on the Body of the Stone itself.

That the sudden Agitation of the Urine, might give some strong *Secouses* to the Stone, is evident, by what we see in the smallest Brook, whose Waters when calm and tranquil, are not capable to move the smallest Stones; but when agitated by the Wind, or otherwise, carry all before them.

In the Winter, when the Air does not enjoy that Temperature of the other Seasons, but on the contrary,

is subject to continual Changes and Variations. The Paroxisms of the Stones should be more frequent, and consequently excruciating, since the Intervals are too small, to give Time to the Parts affected, to strengthen themselves against a new Attack or Fit.

Some Authors pretend, that the Air puts no other wise the Stone in Motion, than by enforcing the Circulation of the Blood; and the Secretion of the Juices which encreases the Action of the most intimate Fibres of the Kidneys and Bladder, we should be much obliged to those Gentlemen, if they would make their Words good, and give us some Reason of their Assertion, since, thereby a Patient troubled with the Stone would never be subject to its Paroxisms, but every Beginning of the Spring or Autumn, when we are convinced by Experience, that it happens otherwise, and that the Paroxisms are as frequent, if not more, in the Winter, than in the Spring or Autumn. Besides, I don't see, why the Action of the Fibres should be encreased by the Increase of the Circulation of the Blood, since that Increase must be supposed to proceed from the Vivacity of the vital Spirits, which the greater it is, the easier the Blood unburthens itself of its Superfluities and therefore the easier the organick Parts perform the Functions. I'll agree with them, if they please, that the Pores of the Vessels having been ceas'd by the Inclemency of the Winter, the Blood by the Return of the Spring, acquires a new Vivacity, which by rendering it more precipitate in its March, makes it force with some Impetuosity the Obstacles, which could be met in the smallest Vessels, and that Impetuosity giving an extraordinary Motion to those Vessels, might cause an Ebranlement of the Stone and consequently a Paroxysm, but however that should happen, but once for the Blood circulates, and the Secretion is made more easy, when its Substance is impregnated with a greater Quantity of Spirits, than when continually obstructed by the Crassity of the Air, which must cause a greater Embarrassment of the Fibres in the Secretion than by its impetuous Fluidity, since the frequent Efforts the Blood makes, for the Separation of the phlegmatic

tick *Limpha*, cannot be without a great Commotion the organick Parts, and consequently of the Stone, which happens oftner in the Winter, than in any other season of the Year.

A vast Quantity of phlegmatick, earthy, and windy humors, not so entirely or perfectly digested in the stomach, or elaborated in the Chylification, enter the Mass of the Blood, loaded with earthy and viscous Corpulencies, which by obstructing the Circulation, cause a tension in the Vessels, and which Tension cannot be without an extraordinary Commotion of the Fibres, and of the Stone.

All Sort of violent Exercise, such as Riding, Running, Jumping, &c. capable to cause a sudden Concussion of the Body as to alter the Position of the Stone, or to put it in Motion, occasion a Paroxysm, since by those violent Agitations, the Stone grates against the nervous Tunick of the Bladder, and if it be rough on its Surface, by wounding the tender Membrane of the Tunick, cause Inflammation and Excoriation, always attended with excruciating Pains.

A bloody Urine, a scalding Heat in the Evacuation, the Indications of an Inflammation and Excoriation of the inner Membrane of the Bladder, and if in Process of Time, the Urine comes mixed with a *fœtid Pus*, the Part must be ulcerated.

The Paroxysm of the Stone proceeds often, without any previous Accident, from the Efforts of Nature, and from the mechanical Faculty of the Fibres, that compose the Kidneys, which, in Concert exert themselves to dislodge so troublesome a Guest, which obstruct their Functions. Therefore it is a general Opinion that the Fibres of the Kidneys, like the Membranes of the Womb, contract their *Maniculæ*, for the Discharge of all little Stones, that lodge themselves in the Organs, especially when they are of so large a Volume, as to obstruct their Action, which Obstruction is on that Occasion, the Cause of their Motion, for the same Harmony which subsists between the *integrante* parts of our Body, for the Relief or Ease of each other, is to be met with betwixt the interne organick parts.

DIAGNOSTICK *of the different* PAROXISMS
the GRAVEL and STONE.

THE Difference of the Volume of the Gravel and of their Position, render the Paroxysm longer or shorter, and more or less vehement; for while there is only Sand or Gravel in the Kidney, if any of those Accidents heretofore mentioned, or the overflowing of the Urine, happens to cause a Paroxysm, as their Volumes are not large enough to cause in their Passage, an extraordinary Dilatation of the *Tubuli Urinarii*, the Paroxysm is of a very short Duration, and very little Dolorous; but if on the contrary, that sandy Matter happens to be concreted in a Stone, and that Stone put into Motion or forced by either the Impetuosity of the Urine or some Accident, thro' the urinary Organs, as it occasions then, an extraordinary Dilation of those Organs, the Pain is violent and felt especially in the Small of the Back, towards the Region of the Loins, affecting often all the vicineous Parts, but those only by Compassion.

There is a very great Difference between the Pain of the Paroxysm of the Stone, when lodged in the Substance of the Kidneys, and when in the *Tubuli Urinarii*, or *Carunculæ Papillares*; for as there is always a greater Sensation, in the Parts which receive more Nerves into their Composition, and there are no Nerves in the *Paranchisme* of the Kidneys, while the Stone continues in it, let it be ever so often altered in its Position, or subject to many different Motions, the Pain is never sharp, but on the contrary, dull, heavy, and attended with a Weight upon the Part. The same cannot be said of the other urinary Organs, which being nervous, are subject to the most excruciating Pains.

People are often mistaken in the Symptoms of a *Nephritick* and a common Cholick, when the Difference is so easily made, as well as to the Seat of the Malady (the one affecting the Intestines, and the other being

ing lodg'd in the urinary Organs) as to the Sharpness of the Pain, which is far greater in the Paroxysm of the Stone, for the Reasons heretofore mention'd, than in a Fit of common Cholick.

It might be objected, that I have but just now, said that the Paroxysms of the Stone, while lodg'd in Substance of the Kidneys, are attended but with obtuse and dull Pains, which might hinder them from being differencied, from those of a common Cholick? To which I answer, that the Difference then consists in that a *Nephritick* Cholick, when it affects the Substance of the Kidneys, or any other urinary Organs, the Bladder excepted, is always attended with a vomiting, which does not happen in a common Cholick of the Intestines, except in the *Illiack* Passion or *Misere-re*, those Vomitings in the *Nephritick*, which happen especially after a full Meal, proceed from the extraordinary Bigness of the Stone, in the Substance of the Kidneys, by distracting the Fibres of the Organs it possesses, far above their natural Capacity of Contraction, and thereby the Tone of the Stomach is so impaired, that that *Viscera* cannot be easy, till by Vomiting, it has unburthen'd itself of the ingested Meats; It happens likewise some reaching, tho' the *Nephritick* proceeds but from the Gravel, especially when it obstructs the *Caruncula Papillares* or *Tabuli Baldiani*, and is of so rough a Surface as to cause an Excoriation in the Texture of the Fibres, as it will be plainly demonstrated in the following Article.

Of the INDICATIONS and SYMPTOMS that affect the several ORGANS in the Passage of the STONE in the KIDNEYS and BLADDER.

IT is evident by what we have already mentioned, that from the Bigness of the Stone proceeds the Vehemency of its Symptoms, for when it is put in Motion, the natural Propensity it has in Common with
all

all heavy Bodies, force it downwards, and consequently causes an extraordinary Dilatation of the Fibres which endeavouring to reassume their natural Situation contract themselves and force the Stone through the *Cerunculae Papillares* and *Tubuli Urinarii*, into the Pelvis; the Pains become very sharp and encrease when the Stone is arrived at the Head of the Ureter; much more if it is of so large a Volume, as to be impossible to pass the Cavity of the Ureter without a Laceration of the nervous Membrane of that Organ; for then the Nerves being drawn into Spasms and Convulsions, the Torture becomes exquisite and almost intolerable, attended with Retchings and Vomitings, and succeeded by a violent Heat and Inflammation about the Region of the Loyns, a Difficulty of walking or standing Upright, from the Convulsion and Contraction of the Nerves of the Ureter, and a Numbness of the Thigh and Leggs, from the Stone pressing against the psoas Muscle of the same Side of the Ureter affected by it.

The Testicles and *Scrotum*, are likewise affected in the Paroxisms of the Stone; the Testicles suffer a Retraction from the Convulsion of their Nerves, and the *Scrotum* a Contraction. These last Symptoms happen likewise in a common Cholick, with this Difference, that in the *Nephritick*, there's but one Testicle retracted, and that on the Side of the Stone, while in a common Cholick, both Testicles are drawn up; besides in a windy Cholick, for Example, the Pain is never fixed in the same Place, but varies; sometimes in the Back; sometimes in the Belly or Sides: But in the *Nephritick* the Pain moves gradually downward, and when the Parts are lacerated, is attended with a bloody Urine, with a thick, turbid, and sandy Sediment, and a most exquisite Torture, which is always greater at the Beginning of the Paroxysm, than afterwards, for this Reason; that at the Beginning of the Paroxysm, the Stone forces its Passage with such Violence thro' the narrow Orifices of the *Tubuli Urinarii* and Ureters, that what with such extraordinary Dilatation, and often the Laceration of the Membranes, the Patient must suffer inexpressible Pains, which cease being

being so accute, when once, by the extraordinary Dilatation of the Cavity of those Parts, the Stone meets with less Opposition in its Passage.

A *Strangury* is another Symptom, which happens during the Paroxysm, and which some are pleased to attribute to the Obstruction caused by the Stone in the Ureter; and others to the Convulsion of the *Sphincter* of the Bladder. For my Part, I would be apt to think, that it proceeds from both; for tho' I acknowledge, that the Urine can have its Course through the Ureter, which is not affected by the Stone, I deny that Nature having appointed two Canals for the Evacuation of the Fluid, its natural Course is not intercepted by the Obstructions of one of those Canals, and the one left free is capable to supply entirely the Deficiency of the other; or that the Urine forgetting all on a sudden, its natural Course, will carry itself to that Part, without endeavouring to force the Obstacles, it meets with in the Ureter obstructed by the Stone.

DIAGNOSTICK of the STONE in the BLADDER from the Symptoms of its PAROXISMS.

SOME Authors are of Opinion that it is almost impossible to discover, if the Stone be in the Bladder, or the Kidneys, without the Help of the *Catheter*. Others pretend to discover it in the Bladder, by thrusting a Finger up the *Anus*: For, say they, if one presses towards the Bladder, if a Stone be lodg'd there, it will feel hard. As for the Use of the *Catheter*, I'll agree that it is the surest Method to discover the Stone in the Bladder; but I reject that Invention of the Finger, as utterly ridiculous; for a Stone might be lodg'd in the Bladder, and not to be felt by the Finger. I would rather have Recourse to some Symptoms, which are as sure almost as the *Catheter*, such (as if the Stone be little and light) a certain Un easiness and Itching at the Region of the *Pubis*, and at the Gland of the *Penis*, and a thin, pale, and watery Urine

Urine, if a Stone grow bigger, a Weight is felt toward the Region of the Loins, or affect the *Pirenæum*.

If the Stone by having staid for a considerable Time in the Bladder, has acquired a large Volume, that Uneasiness changes into Pains, and the Weight becomes dolorous. The Patient is afflicted with a *Tenesmus*, or a continual Inclination to go to Stool, proceeding from the Irritation of the Branches of the Nerve, equally inserted in the Bladder, *Intestinum Rectum* and *Sophincter Ani*: The Patient is also troubled at the same Time with a *Strangury*, and tho' at each Motion of the Stone, which are then very frequent, he finds Inclination to make Water, he is too often frustrated in his Attempt; and when he does it, it is in a very little Quantity and great Difficulty, attended with a violent Heat and Pain towards the *Perforation* of the Gland.

A sandy Sediment which subside, and barkens at the Bottom and Sides of the *Urinal*, is another strong *Diagnostick* of the Stone in the Bladder, since it is an evident Sign that the fabulous Matter is much impregnated with a large Quantity of viscous and tenacious Corpuscles, and therefore inclinable to Concretion.

DIAGNOSTICKS of the ULCERS in the KIDNEYS or BLADDER, occasioned by the Roughness of the GRAVEL or STONE.

THE most skilful and Experienced Physicians have often been mistaken in the *Diagnostick* of the Ulcer in the Kidneys or Bladder, from the Analogy or Similitude of the Symptoms. Those of an Ulcer in the Intestines, being often the same, with those of an Ulcer in the Kidneys or Bladder it generally is differenced from that in the Intestines, by being attended with a violent Heat, a Fever and excruciating Pain, which if felt in the Back, indicates the Ulcer in the Kidneys, if near the *Os Pubis*, in the Bladder. These first Symptoms are succeeded (if not timely remedied) by a Tumour, with an Inflammation proceeding from the Obstruction of the arterial Branches

ches of the Organs, that causes a Beating and an extraordinary Tension of the Part, which continues, till the Abces (occasioned by the Accumulation of the Matter in the Texture of the Fibres) break; for immediately after the Patient feels his Pain considerably abated, small Flakes or Fileaments, not much unlike the thin Parings of Leather, are evacuated with the Urine, succeeded afterwards by a *Purulent Pus*, which if the Ulcer be in the Bladder, smells stronger and more offensive, than when in the Kidneys.

Those Symptoms are less dangerous, and easier to be remedied in a Patient of a sound Constitution, and moderate in his Diet, than in a *cacochimous*, or a Man that can't refrain his Appetite, and abandon himself to all Kind of Excess whatsoever; for by those Disorders, and the evil Habit of the Solid and Fluids, the Texture of the Organs is so impaired, that they are render'd incapable to resist the Virulency of the Matter of the Inflammation, which thereby turns to an Ulcer, that Ulcer to a *Gangreen*, and that *Gangreen* to a *Sphacule*, from thence ensue an inevitable Death.

The grating of the Stone (when rough and pointed in its Surface) against the nervous Coat of the Bladder, throw its sphincter Muscle into Convulsion, and thereby occasion very dangerous Symptoms; for without mentioning the Pain, which is intolerable, the Patient by a total and continual Suppression of the Urine, which overheats the Body, is seiz'd with a violent Fever, with Deliriums, Phrenzy, and Thirst; and which, if of a long Continuance, must be attended with Death. Since it is *Galen's* Opinion, that a total Suppression of Urine, could hold no longer than fourteen Days, without imminent Danger for the Life of the Patient.

PROGNOSTICKS of the STONES from the Intensity and Frequency of its PAROXISMS.

WE have made the preceeding general Observations on the different Causes, Progress, and *Diagnosticks* of the Gravel and Stone, with no other
F Design

Design, than to render us capable to form a just Prognostick of that tedious and violent Malady, which, hereditary, must be almost incurable; for the Mass of the Blood, being impregnated or rather vitiated from the first Instant of *Sui Salinis Puncti*, with that viscid Phlegm, which is the immediate Cause of the Gravel and Stone, its impossible for that *Focus* to be entirely eradicated; it cannot be reasonably expected that any Dissolvent, or even the *Lithotomy* itself could be a Specifick for that Distemper; for than a Stone or Gravel is no sooner extracted, but another supplies its Place. If I be asked, how this Sentiment agree, with my having admitted the Imbecility of the Tone of the Stomach for the remote Cause of the Stone: I'll answer, that the one does not destroy the other; since the Blood which is the first Principle of our Animal Life, and the first Motor of all our organick Parts, being vitiated in its Origin, render consequently the Functions of the organick Parts imperfect; neither can the Stomach be supposed to escape the common Fate; therefore I think it needless and insignificant, for a Patient, who has received such awful Inheritance from his Parents to undergo the Operation of the *Lithotomy*, in Hopes of a perfect Cure, since it cannot avail him otherwise, than to give him some Relief for a very short Space of Time. And I wou'd never advise him to submit to a second Operation, which would be far more dangerous than the first, from the *Callosity*, the Operator shou'd be obliged to cut near, or perhaps upon. Some Remedies may be administered to give a temporary Ease, but one can never expect a Specifick, and all those who pretend to have found one, are *Charlatans*, or Impostors.

Women are less subject to the Stone than Men; for this Reason, that their Organs admitting of a greater dilatation, the fabulous Matter is carried off with the Urine, before it can be formed into a Concretion; not that I would pretend, that all Womenkind are free from Gravel and Stone; but even those affected with it, have this Advantage, that by the Largeness of their urinary Passages, they can void all small Stones and Gravel before they have acquired any considerable Volume, and those

hose might be extracted with a proper Instrument, without having Recourse to the Section, which is at all Times, and on all Occasions; dangerous.

When the dangerous Symptoms, such as an inflammatory Fever, Delirium, Phrenzy, excruciating Pains, &c. which accompany the Paroxiſm of the Stone, are not to be aſſuag'd; and the Patient receive no viſible Relief from the Remedies adminiſtered to him by a learned Phyſician; his Caſe is dangerous, and there remain little Hopes of his Recovery.

A Phyſician can form a very favourable Prognostiſtick, when his Patient, after a copious Evacuation of Sand or Gravel, with the Urine, feel the Violence of the Symptoms abated; for it is a Sign that there is no Concretion, or if there is, that it muſt be ſo frivolous, as not to be capable to reſiſt the Impetuofity of the Urine.

All Stones of an extraordinary Bigneſs or Volume are dangerous, even when attempted by the moſt ſkilful *Lithotomiſt*, ſince it cannot be extracted without a great Dilatation of the Orifice of the Wound, which breaks the Continuity of the Texture of the Fibres, and render the Re-union almoſt impoſſible.

A Stone of an extraordinary poliſhed Surface, or ſo wrapt up in a Capſule, as to adhere to the Membranes, is not to be touch'd, ſince it is impoſſible, it ſhould be diſſolved by the ſtrongeſt Diſſolvent, that Pharmacy could invent, and to attempt the Operation is to carry the Patient to an unavoidable Death.

The Number of the Stones, provided they be ſmall ones, is never dangerous, ſince they can be diſſolved or forced thro' the urinary Paſſage, or eaſily extracted by the Operation.

If a Stone be thought to adhere to the Urether in its Paſſage from the Kidneys to the Bladder, or cannot be diſſolved, or forced from thence, nothing but Death can be expected.

An Ulcer in the Kidneys or Bladder is always dangerous, but ſeldom mortal; unleſs in old Men, and thoſe of a *cacochimous* Conſtitution, ſince their Strength being already debilitated by Age, or the ill Habit of their Body, cannot reſiſt long to the Vehemency and Frequency

of the Paroxifms, besides their Blood being divested of a vast Quantity of those Spirits, so absolutely necessary to give it a Vivacity, capable to resist to the Morbific Matter; the Part must be soon sphaceled, it is likewise very dangerous, and almost needless for Persons much advanced in Years to undergo the Operation; for the only Benefit they can expect from it, is a transitory Ease of few Months, perhaps not so long, which is soon succeeded by their Death, if it does not happen in a few Days after the Operation, since their exhausted Strength and impaired Constitution deprive the lacerated Parts of the glutinous and nutritive Juices, absolutely necessary for their Re-union.

The Manner how to proceed in the Cure of the STONE, with an exact ANALYSIS of Mr. Stephen's Medicines.

THE more difficult is the Cure of a Malady, the more occult are its Causes, and the more a experienced Physician is puzzled to discover its Progress, the more the Physical Stage swarms with Quacks and Impostors, who with an uncommon Impudence and Arrogance, vend their poisonous *Nosstrums*, as an infallible Specifick for it, administered by them without Learning, Experience, or Judgment, to the Detriment of the Patient's Health, and but too often to the Danger of his Life; I am not surpriz'd that those Knaves, under those false Pretences, endeavour to cozen People out of their Money; but I cannot imagine, how Persons of Sense suffer themselves to be entrapp'd by them; let it be granted that there are Specificks for all *Chronick*, and the most dangerous Malady, but even those should never be administered, but by the Direction of a skilful Physician, capable to judge pertinently of the different Constitution of their Patients and of the Temperature of the Climate, order their Diet, draw just Inferences of Prognosticks from the Symptoms, and prescribe judiciously the Doses of the Remedies.

That it is absolutely necessary for a Physician, before he administers his Remedies, to know as well as possible, the Constitution of his Patient, is evident from the different Operations of the same Remedy, and administered for the same Malady, in Persons of different Constitutions; that the same Remedy which has cured some Persons, prove ineffectual in others, and sometimes encreased the Malady, it was administered for; even the Length and Tediouſness of the Diſtemper, or the Difference in its Symptoms, changes the Qualities of the Remedies: The Stone or Gravel can be rank'd among thoſe Maladies, on which the moſt infallible *Noſtrum*, of the moſt famous Empyrick has ſeldom any Effect, unleſs it be a contrary one to what was expected: The Vulgar allured by the Cheapneſs of thoſe poyſonous *Ripopees*; or by the Sanction of ſome ignorant or ſcandalous Phyſician, who divide the Prey with the Retailer, or frighted at the exorbitant Fees of a learned one, flock to thoſe Poyſoners of the human Race, and put their *Lethalis Potio* in Vogue; but thoſe of a ſuperior Rank, and who pretend to ſoar above the Commonalty, for Senſe and Judgment, had always, till lately, condemned or deſpiſed ſuch vile Practices. Our Anceſtors had been aſhamed to be thought capable to give an open Sanction in Form of Law, or to purchaſe out the publick Funds. A ſham Secret, compoſed of a pernicious Mixture of nauſeous Drugs, part of which, if adminiſted aſunder cannot be thought, or ever be ſuſpected, by Perſons who claim any Pretence to Senſe or Reaſon, much leſs by thoſe who have the leaſt Tincture of Chymiſtry, to contain any Virtue or Quality of what Kind ſoever, neither can they acquire any by being mixed together, or by Fermentation, unleſs it is ſome evil ones, and deſtructive of our Conſtitution, as I am going to make appear by the impartial and exact *Analysis*, of a Secret whoſe insignificant Diſcovery has been purchaſed at ſo dear a Rate, and publickly approved by a learned Phyſician, for Reaſons beſt known to himſelf.



ANALYSIS of Mrs. STEPHEN'S MEDICINE for the STONE.



Efore we examine the different Ingredient which enter into the Composition of this mysterious and dearly bought Remedy, we must remember, first, that so often repeated Aphorism, *Sublata causa tollitur Effectus*; that it is impossible to cure radically any Malady, without eradicating the Cause; 2dly, What we have mentioned heretofore, that it is impossible to eradicate entirely the Cause of the Stone, especially when there is in the Mass of Blood, a *Focus* for its Generation; as it happens, when the Stone is hereditary 3dly, That there are some Stones of such Bigness and so compact in their Texture, that it is impossible for the strongest Dissolvent to make the least Impression upon it, much less to dissolve it entirely: Let us consider first, how Mrs. Stephens's Medicine can eradicate the *Focus* of the Stone, which must be placed in the Stomach.

Every rational Man, without being a Physician, especially if he be pleased to read with some Attention, what I have said of the Causes of the Stone, must agree that the *Focus* can't be eradicated, but by repairing the Tone of the Stomach, or sharpening its Ferment or Dissolvent, which has been blunted and imbecillated, by Excess, or improper Dyet; for it is in the Stomach that the Medicine must begin its Operation. Let's consider at present whether Mrs. Stephens's Medicines are capable to answer those ends, and if it can help the Digestion so far as to procure a more perfect Separation of the Chyle from the gross Excrements; or if on the

he contrary, such a nauseous Mixture is not rather a Bane to the digestive Faculty, a heavy clogg to the Dissolvent, and capable by the excessive Irritation it causes in the Membranes, to break the Texture of their Fibres, and thereby rather Increase the Imbecillity of the Stomach, than strengthen its Faculty; this I design to make appear, in the following Examen, Article by Article, of that Medicine.

My Medicines, says Mrs. *Stephens* are a Powder, a Decoction and Pills; but why different Preparations or a Dissolvent? Are not one or two medicinal Preparations nauseous enough, considering our natural reluctance to take Physick, without burthening the Stomach, with a greater Number; or is it to make the Vulgar believe, that they have something for their Money? or in fact there are People stupid and ignorant enough, to believe that they cou'd never be cured, without taking a vast Quantity of Physick; and it would be a Kind of a Crime in a Physician, to do it otherwise. Therefore Mrs. *Stephens*, to obviate to such Inconveniency, and to humour the Fools (as I suppose) has cunningly divided her Dissolvent into three different Preparations; for she must be forced to confess, that she could have reduced it at least, to two; and made of the Powder and Pills but one Composition; but the pretended Cure had not been attended with so much preparation and Ceremony, and therefore had appeared too easy, and consequently not so much taken Notice of.

This is a Remedy by Excellence, and such a one, as had never been thought possible before; for even those who had pretended, that a Stone could be dissolved in the Bladder or Kidneys, had always excepted some Cases, in which such Dissolution was not to be expected; such as old Age, a Complication of Distempers, the extraordinary Volume of the Stones, the compactness of their Texture &c. But here there are no Obstacles which might not be surmounted; Age, Complication, Dyet, Excess, nothing can hinder the Effect of this sovereign Remedy; it would be in vain, if Nature itself should attempt to struggle against it

But

But however let's Consider, if *Mrs. Stephens* might not be mistaken in her Calculation, and does not want to impose upon us; or if the Worthy ----- who has took so much Pains to compile together the marvellous Cures She has operated, without favouring us with the least of his learned Reflections on the Manner the Medicine operates, is not some near Relation of that famous Surgeon, who some Years ago, was so fortunate to divide the Case with the RABBIT WOMAN; I hope he'll not take it amiss, if without contenting myself of a Negative, as he has done of an Affirmative, I'll proceed to make my Negative good, by Reflecting on his Dissolvent; and as his Friend *Mrs. Stephens* begun her Secret by the Powder, we'll begin our *Analysis* by the said Powder.

ANALYSIS of *Mrs. STEPHENS'S POWDER*

M*RS. Stephens's* Powder consists of Egg-Shells and Snails, both calcined, and thus prepared.

“ Take Hen's Egg-Shells, well drained from the
 “ Whites, dry and clean; crush them small with your
 “ Hands, and fill a Crucible of the twelfth Size
 “ (which contains near three Pints) with them lightly
 “ place it to a wheel Fire, and cover it with a Tile,
 “ till the Egg-shells be calcined to a greyish White,
 “ and acquire an acid salt Taste; this will take up eight
 “ Hours at least. After they are thus calcined, put
 “ them into a dry, clean earthen Pan, which must be
 “ above three Parts full, that there may be Room for
 “ the Swelling of the Egg-shells in flaking. Let the Pan
 “ stand uncover'd in a dry Room for two Months and
 “ no longer; in this Time the Egg-shells will become
 “ of a milder Taste, and that Part which is sufficiently
 “ calcined will fall into Powder of such a Fineness, as
 “ to pass through a common Hair Sieve, which is to
 “ be done accordingly.

ANALYSIS of this Preparation of the
EGG-SHELLS, and of its Virtues.

Will admit with the *Chymists*, that Egg-shells are of a corrosive Quality, not while the Texture of their constituent Parts subsist, and are left to themselves, but when broken by some strong Menstruum, whose small Corpuscles, penetrating their Substance, unfold the Parts which enter into their Composition from off the viscidulous Particles they were wrapp'd in, put them in Motion, and direct them to Action; for an Egg-shell left to itself, without Fermentation, or any other Preparation has no Virtue, else should corrode the *Pellicule*, hence there is a great Difference, betwixt Salts wrapt in their Capsules, and those directed to Action; neither could it be expected, that a Stone wrapt ever so long in an Egg-shell, could be dissolved, let the Egg-shell never so corrosive.

But however, why should the Shell of an Egg be transferr'd in that Operation? Since its corrosive Faculty cannot be attributed to any Thing else, but its Salts, and the more the Egg-shell abounds in saline Corpuscles, the greater must be its Virtue: Therefore I must be of Opinion that the Shell of a Turkey or a Duck's are abundant in Salts, shou'd answer better the Design of the *Artist*, or of the Physician, who is to prescribe the Remedy. To dry and clean the Shells, is, in my Opinion, a needless Circumstance, as well as bruising them small with the Hands, since this last Circumstance is only to reduce them into a narrower Compass, therefore bruising them in a Mortar would answer the same End. The Bigness of a Crucible, methinks, is of as little Signification, since bigger or lesser, it cannot be otherwise than full, neither can I believe that the Operation should be sooner or later ended, from the Bigness of the Crucible.

Mrs. *Stephens* has no need to caution us about the Degree of Fire, since there are very few Calcinations made without a clear Fire, but the Length of Time for the Calcination of a few Egg-Shells, seems to me prodigious, the Calcination of *Antimony*, for a *Vitrification*, which is made in the same Manner, is accomplished in a lesser Time; the Precaution used in it of Covering the Crucible with a Tile, is more reasonable, since without it, the most Volatile Corpuscles (the whole being put in a vehement Agitation, by the Vivacity of the igneous Particles) would be evaporated with the *fuliginous* ones, which meeting with that Obstacle in their ascent, are precipitated, and form on the Surface of the Matter, during the Calcination, a kind of Nets, in whose interstices the smaller Corpuscles coming to lodge themselves more closely, are thereby more directed to their Action; but I cannot conceive how such a long Time should be requisite for to form that new Texture, if ever it was to be supposed that such a one should be formed at all; and if on the contrary, such violent Fire, and of so long Duration, should not be capable to Consume and annihilate the few oleaginous Corpuscles to be met with in the Shell of an Egg, without which such a Texture is not to be formed: I am apt to think, that the Acridity found in the Matter when the Calcination is perfect, proceeds from the igneous Particles diffused thro' it, since almost all Calcinations have the same Acridity. Lime is Acrid till it has been slaken, the Preparation of *Antimony* for to make it *Diaphretick* is Acrid, till after its Lotions. Old Leather calcined is Acrid, and in this Acridity, proceeding from the continual Motion of the igneous Particles, which direct the Salts to Action, consists its caustick Virtue: But what Virtue can an Egg-Shell have? Which after a tedious Calcination, the better as I have supposed already, to unfold its Principles, sharpen the *Points* of its Salts and direct them to Action, is put afterwards to a still more tedious Digestion, which by the ensuing phænomenons, must destroy the Design of the Calcination; for, says — Mrs. *Stephens* — Egg-Shells swell in Slaking, which is an evident demonstration of the Conflict of the igneous Particles

ed in the interstices or diffused throughout the whole substance of the Egg-Shells, against the watery *Menstruum*, to which the Fire is forced at last to leave the Place, as it appears by the Slaking of the Matter.

I have observed, that this long Digestion of two Months, must infallibly frustrate the Intention of the Calcination, which is to open and unfold the Principles, till then confounded together in the Egg-Shells, and direct them to their Action; and as that Action consists chiefly in their saline Corpuscles, those Corpuscles are by the Calcination, freed from the earthly Capsules, which did keep them inactive; their Points sharpened and indued with more Vivacity. If after this first Operation, the Egg-Shells were only to undergo two or three Lotions, like the Diaphoretick of *Antimony*, to free it from the igneous Particles it might contain, and which might render it a Caustick; I should be perhaps more apt to believe, that there is some corrosive Virtue, in such Preparation of the Egg-Shells, for by those Lotions, the Texture of the saline Corpuscles cannot be broken, or their Points or Angles blunted; but a long Fermentation, must not only disorder, but destroy the Cimetry and Arrangement of the saline Corpuscles, and force them to return into their former Principles, great deal weaker than they were before the Operation, as it appears by the Powder being precipitated At last to the bottom of the Pan, which kept on the Surface of the watery *Menstruum*, as long as the Texture of the saline Corpuscles, cou'd resist the Dissolution of its Parts: Therefore 'tis my Opinion, that there is not the least Virtue left, in that Powder found at the bottom of the Pan, as being destitute or divested of all saline Corpuscles.

ANALYSIS of the Preparation of the SNAILS.

THere is nothing in the whole Creation, from the most insignificant Reptile, to the Masterpiece of the Divine *Architect*, which has not some Virtue or Quality conducive to the Preservation or Restauration

of our Healths. By a curious and assiduous Labour, we have found the Secret to draw *Cardiacs* and *Antidotes* from the rankest Poisons: The Viper which is one of the most dangerous Reptiles, furnishes a skillful Art with *Antidotes*, *Cardiacs*, *Sudorificks*, *Restoratives*, &c. And why not the least offensive among them, such as the Snails? daily administered with such vast Success (at least in some People's Opinion) in the *Peripneumonia*, *Consumptions*, or any other Affections of the Lungs, under the Supposition, that the Snails abounding with a vast Quantity of oleaginous, sulphureous and glutinous *Corpuscles*, little or no Acid, but a great deal of *Alkaly*, which being carried with the Chyle into the Blood, break or blunt the Angles of those acrimonious Salts, therewith it most abounds, stops the Vehemence of their Motion, and hinders them from irritating, ulcerating or breaking the Continuity of the Texture of the Fibres, and thereby become a *Specifick* (as pretended) for all Affections of the Lungs: But we must consider, that the Preparation of the Snails, in such Cases, is a very Simple one, never exceeding a single Decoction in Milk or some oleaginous *Menstruum*: And I cannot conceive, how they shou'd retain any of their Vertues, after an Hour's Calcination at a clear Fire, since their Vertues must consist in their saline *Corpuscles* (as Mrs. Stephen's seems to intimate by ordering them to be chose in the Spring, when their common Food is the most impregnated with Salts.) Those saline *Corpuscles*, at least the most Volatiles, being evaporated with the fuliginous ones; and what's left in the Crucible, cannot be reckon'd any thing else but a kind of *Caput Mortuum* or a burnt viscous Matter, abounding with a vast Quantity of earthly *Corpuscles*, impregnated with some fixed Salts, which for ought I know might have a feeble diuretick Vertue; but the *Obtuseness* of its Angles, renders it incapable of making the least Impression on the Stones. Thus far on the Preparation of Mrs. Stephen's Powder for a Dissolvent for the Stone, which, by what we have observed, can be of no Use in that Malady, far from being a *Specifick*. Lets proceed to her Decoction.

ANALYSIS of the DECOCTION.

“ **T** A K E (says Mrs. *Stephens*) four Ounces and a
 “ half of the best Alicant Soap, beat it in a Mor-
 “ ter with a large Spoonful of Swines Cresses, burnt to
 “ a blackness, and as much Honey as will make the
 “ whole of the Consistence of Paste ; let this be formed
 “ into a Ball.

“ Take this Ball and Green Camomile Flowers, sweet
 “ Fennel, Parsley and Burdock Leaves, of each one
 “ Ounce : When there are not Greens, take the same
 “ Quantity of Roots, cut the Herbs or Roots, slice the
 “ Ball and boil them in two Quarts of soft Water, half
 “ an Hour, then strain it off and mix it with Honey.

Sure this is not a Medicine to repair the Tone of the
 Stomach, to strengthen its Membranes or to help the
 Digestion ? Quite contrary : Since the Herbs or Roots
 excepted, the rest is known by the frequent *Ructus* it
 causes, to be a Bane to the digestive Faculty, and by
 irritating the Texture of the Fibres, of the nervous
 Membrane, capable to throw it into Convulsions, and
 even break the Continuity of its Texture.

But (says Mrs. *Stephens*, or he from whom she has
 received that Secret) nothing that enters in that De-
 coction, is administered in Substance, since the Alicant
 Soap, for Example, is made use of only to have the
Menstruum impregnated with its lixivious Salts, which
 uniting themselves with the Chile in the Stomach, are
 hereby conveyed to the Blood, which they accom-
 pany in its Circulation, till it comes to the secretory
 Vessels of the Kidnies, where they take their leave
 and following the *Lympha* In the Secretion, meet with
 the Stone in the Urinary Organs, on which they fix
 themselves in order for its Dissolution. All that would
 be very well ; and I would not pretend to suspect in
 the least the Operation of Mrs. *Stephen's* Medicine, if
 he could warrant me that those lixivious Salts, are
 obliged to follow the Road prescribed to them by
 Nature or could do it without meeting with any Ob-
 stacle

stacle, capable to disappoint her Design; or if could persuade me, that they are not so much weakened by the Fatigues of a long Journey, that they want Strength to operate, when they come to the Place appointed; without mentioning those which have been lost on the Road: Since the *Stephenists* must be forced to confess, that those Salts are either fixed or Volatile; if they be fixed, Part of them must be evacuated with the gross Excrements; since it would be ridiculous to think, that they are so much under Mrs. *Stephens's* Command, as to be all incorporated in the Substance of the *Chile*, unless the *Stephenists* admit likewise a Magnetic Virtue in the *Chile* for the attraction of those Salts. Therefore if Part of them (and even the greatest Part evacuated with the gross Excrements, the few escaped in the *Chile*, are not capable to perform so difficult an Operation, as the Dissolution of so compact and hard a Body, as is the Stone in the Kidneys or Bladder. These fixed Salts, besides, having seldom any other Virtue than the clearing *les Premieres Voies*, it is true, that they might be volatilised by the natural Heat, and by different Juices, which work on the Perfection of the Blood; but even in that Volatification, some of them must be evaporated, or with the insensible Perspiration of the Humours, or with the Sweat, some very much weakened, or entirely annihilated; and those remaining are in so little a Quantity, that it can't be supposed sufficient, let them be ever so Corrosives, to dissolve the Stone, and if they were, they cannot have Time to direct themselves to Action, before they might be washed away by the continual flowing of the Urine.

They may be, 'tis true, reinplaced by others, but those others are Subject to the same Inconvenience, and were they even, to make each of them some Impression on the Stone, its entire dissolution cou'd not be expected before the Dissolution of the Patient himself, especially if the Stone was of any considerable Bigness. I will likewise suppose their *Cohesion* to the Stone, and that they are in a Quantity sufficient to operate; have they any Activity of themselves? And if not; how are they to be put into Motion, or directed to Action?

When

Where's the *Menstruum*, to cause a new Fermentation or the necessary Heat, without which they must remain Inactive? The Urine passing but in a very small Quantity at once, especially through the Kidneys and *Treers*; and its stay being but a very short in those Parts, cannot be accounted a sufficient *Menstruum* on that Occasion, or the Heat of the Reins, intercepted by the Frigidity of the Stone, a sufficient Heat: Therefore those *Lixivious* Salts (if it cou'd be reasonably supposed that Mrs. *Stephen's* Decoction could be impregnated with any) cannot have *Force* or *Virtue* to operate when they arrive at the Place appointed for their Action; I say, if there are any in the Decoction, for I cannot be persuaded that a Ball made of Alicant Soap and Swines Cresses, beaten together in a Mortar, cou'd be capable to communicate any extraordinary Quality to a watery *Menstruum*, in which it has been boiled for half an Hour, for it must be granted that the dissolvent *Virtue* expected from that Ball, should consist chiefly in the saline Corpuscles of the Ashes, which enter into the composition of the Soap; but how can these saline *Corpuscles* be unfolded from that vast Quantity of the *oleaginous* Ones, they are wrapt in? Especially after the Composition, by being beat in a Mortar, is become more compact in its Parts, and thereby less easy to be penetrated.

The *Stephenists* expect perhaps, that their *lixivious* Decoction will produce the same effect in the Kidneys or Bladder, it has upon foul Linnen, &c. But they must consider, that in a washing Tub the whole substance of the Soap is applyed, which still could have no effect, without strong and repeated *Frixations*, I'll agree that in a running *Lixivium*, the *lixivious* Salts seem to perform something near what Mrs. *Stephens* would have her Decoction operate in the Kidneys and Bladder; but she must consider, that there is a great deal of Difference; for in a running *Lixivium*, the *lixivious* Salts have not only been put in Motion, by a violent Heat, but are likewise continued such by a graduate one, till the whole Operation is accomplished, and even then, they have no other Effect than to relax and disunite

disunite the constituent Parts of the *Body* they work upon, that it might be the easier dissolved, by a quite different and stronger Operation ; so that if that *Body* was kept a Year under the lixivious one, it could never be dissolved without the Help of the other : Tho' the lixivious Salts are not only applied immediately and well directed to the *Body*, which is to be dissolved, but likewise receive continually a fresh Supply of new and *homogeneous Corpuscles* of equal strength, and as well directed ; which cannot be said of those Salts, in the human *Body*, where they are subject to so many Changes or Vicissitudes ; were they meet with so many Obstacles and Oppositions from *heterogeneous Bodies*, that they must be supposed entirely exhausted when they come to the Place of their Destination.

I'll confess however, that, tho' Mrs. *Stephen's* Decoction cannot be accounted, in Concert with her Powder, a Dissolvent for the Stone, it might have a strong diuretick Quality, not from the lixivious Salts of the Soap and Swines Cresses, but from the *Simples* which enter into it, and which abounding with volatile Salts proper to procure a more perfect and quicker Separation of the *Serum*, and consequently a more abundant Secretion, The Impetuosity of the Urine at that Time might force the Gravel or small Stones it could meet with in its Passage, thro' the Urinary *Organs* ; but it is my Opinion, that the Operation should be attributed to the volatile Salts of the *Simples*, wherewith the watery *Menstruum* is strongly impregnated, and not at all to the Ball of Soap and Swines Cresses, which I don't suppose to be of any other Service on that Occasion, than was the Flint Stone to the *Jesuit*, with which he would have persuaded some Country People, he could make some excellent Soupe, if they would furnish him with the other necessary Ingredients.

ANALYSIS of Mrs. Stephens's PILLS.

AM convinced at present, that my Observations on Mrs. Stephen's Medicine in general, are just, and that she could have reduced them to one or two Compositions, since her Pills are nothing else than a *Compendium* of the two others, as it plainly appears by the following Recipe.

“ Take (concludes Madam *Stephen's*) an equal Quantity by Measure of Snails calcined as before, of wild Carrot Seeds, Burdock Seeds, Ash Keys, Hipps and Hawes, all burnt to a Blackness, or which is the same thing, till they have done Smoaking, mix them together, rub them in a Morter, and pass them thro' a Cypress Sieve, then take a large Spoonful of this Mixture and four Ounces of the best Alicant Soap, and beat them in a Morter with as much Honey as will make the Whole of a proper Consistence for Pills, Sixty of which are to be made out of every Ounce of the Composition.

This is then, Mrs. *Stephen's* finishing Stroke upon the one, and such a heavy one as to reduce it to *Atoms*. And as the Snails have begun the Operation, they must likewise finish it, tho' dress'd in another Habit, and appearing under another Figure or Shape; I shan't attempt to examine their Virtues in the Pills, since I don't suppose them a greater Specifick thus prepared, than when in Powder. Therefore I'll proceed to some Reflections on the Vegetables or Simples, which she orders to be burnt to a Blackness, I can scarcely understand, what is meant by burning those Vegetables to Blackness, unless it is by breaking the Texture of their pores to render the Salts they contain more fit for a second Operation, which Operation must be accomplished in the Stomach, before those Salts can be thought proper for any Action whatsoever, since they must be entirely freed from their *Scories* or *Dross*, and the Substance of the Chile entirely impregnated therewith, before they can be directed to Motion: Those Vegetables
H being

being of a nutritive Quality, might undergo the same Mutations in the Stomach with the other Aliments, and perhaps a more perfect and easier Digestion, because the Fire has effected, what the *Dissolvent* or the Ferment of the Stomach must have done, the breaking the Texture of their Fibres; but are those saline Corpuscles thus freed from their Capsules which hinder their Motion of a Corrosive Quality? and if they could be supposed such, while inclosed in the *Plant* or *Seed*, do they not acquire some other *Propreties*, when in some Measure sublimated in the Stomach, and as they are divided betwixt the Acid and Alkaly, the Alkaly being even supposed Predominant by the Effect of the Calcination which must have infallibly evaporated the most volatile Corpuscles, and fixed the rest: Why should they not be thought Diaphoretick, Sudorificks, &c. as well as Corrosives or Diureticks; why shou'd they be supposed inactive through the whole Course of the Circulation till they come to the Stone, and if they are put in Motion and directed to Action, as soon as they are mixed with the Chyle, why should they not make some sensible Impression on the different *Humours* which enter into the Composition of the Blood, by fixing them, and thereby causing some dangerous Accident throughout the whole *Mass*? Since its porous Substance is easier to be penetrated, than the Texture of the Stone, it cannot be objected, that they are more at Liberty to act after the Secretion, than whilst driven in the whole Mass of the Blood; since nothing is more proper to direct them to Action than the *Vehicle* of the Blood, and that graduate Heat which accompanies it in its Circulation: If it is said, that in the Blood the acute Angles of those *saline Corpuscles*, are blunted in their Encounter with so many different *heterogeneous* Bodies they meet with, I'll ask, how they can be sharpened again in the Secretion? And if they are, why don't they make the first Operation on the Membranes of the urinary Organs? What Reason can be alledged for their natural Antipathy to the Stone, rather than to any other Part? But Experience convinces us, that those Salts fixed in the Calcination have no other than a Diaphoretick, Sudorific

crifick or Diuretick Virtue ; and that even often but
ter a *Lixivation*, *Filtration* and *Evaporation* ; perhaps
ey acquire that Virtue by being mixed with the o-
er Ingredients, the Pills are compos'd with such as
e Alicant Soap and Honey ; Soap and Honey when
plied in Substance are both Deterfives, and are both
ccessively administred to clear the *Premiers Vours*,
e Honey is so loaded with viscous and glutinous Cor-
scles, and its Principles so well united together, that
is with the greatest Difficulty they are seperated in
e Stomach, therefore the whole Operation of the fer-
ent and of the native Warmth on its Substance is to
blimate its most sulphureous Particles, which are
ther Anodynes than Corrosives, and more proper to
eeten the Mass of the Blood, than to be secreted
th the *Serum*, for the *Corrosion* of the Gravel or
one : The constituent Principles of the Soap are so
mpact, that I'll never believe when taken in Substance,
ey can be disunited ; or that it can produce any o-
er Effect, than by irritating the Fibres of the Stomach,
uses a Vomiting. Therefore the whole Virtue of
e Grand Preparation consist in the Decoction, and is
other than a simple Diuretick ; from whence I con-
ude that it is ridiculous to believe a Dissolvent for
e Stone.

REFLECTIONS on the Method of administering the
Preceding MEDICINES.

WHEN there is a Stone in the Bladder, the
Powder is to be taken three times a Day,
viz. in a Morning after Breakfast, in the Afternoon
about Five or Six, and at going to Bed ; the Dose
is a Drachm *Averdupois* or fifty six Grains, which
is to be mixed in a large Tea Cup, full of White
Wine, Cyder or small Punch ; and half a Pint of the
Decoction is to be drank either Cold or Milk Warm,
after every Dose.

The Method which Mrs. *Stephens* observes in the
administration of her Medicine confirms almost what

I have said already, that there is very little or no Virtue in any of her three Preparations, but in the Decoction, since half a Pint of it must be taken after every Dose of the Powder, as a Vehicle to it; (as I suppose) neither does she think that Vehicle sufficient, since she orders the Powder to be mixed in a large Glass of another *Diuretick*, such as *White Wine*, *Cyder* or *small Punch*; and I really believe, that was a Patient to leave off the Powder, and confine himself to the Glass of *White Wine* or *Punch*, and to the half Pint of the Decoction, he would receive as much Benefit from it, as if he had took both Preparations; which confirms likewise that the three Preparations might have been very well reduced to two, or that the Powder could be taken in the Decoction, without making too nauseous a Draught of it; unless the *Stephenists* be pleased to inform us if the taking the Powder in a *Diuretick*, different from the Decoction, strengthens its Virtues or adds some new Qualities to it; or if it should lose some of it, if taken in the Decoction: Which last cannot be supposed, since half a Pint of the Decoction must be taken immediately after the Powder, as if they were both to act in Concert; or rather, as if in Fact, that one of them had no other Virtue, than to serve as a Vehicle to the other.

Three Drenches of the Powder, and three half Pints of the Decoction must be taken every Day, one in the Morning after Breakfast; for I find it must not be taken Fasting, tho' I would be apt to believe, that drowning the Stomach with so considerable a Quantity of Physick, immediately after the taking of the *Aliments* would disorder the Ferment, render the Coction imperfect, and instead of being a Remedy for the Stone, helps towards increasing its *Focus*. Mrs. *Stephen's* does it perhaps, on Purpose to have the first Coction impregnated with the supposed Corrosive Salts of her Medicine; but (that Corrosive Virtue always supposed) it would be a great deal better for the just Oeconomy of the whole Mechanism, if the Blood was not visited at his *Petit Levee* by such troublesome Guests, who could perhaps surprise the *Spirits* when they are scarce
awake.

awake, and cause some Disorder in the Circulation; but however, there is nothing to be feared on that Side, since, methinks that I have sufficiently demonstrated, that there is not the least Corrosive Corpuscles in either of Mrs. *Stephen's* Preparations; and therefore, a Patient might in all Safety, after Breakfast, or Fasting, as he shall think fit, take Mrs. *Stephen's* Powder and Decoction; tho' for my own Part, I should rather chuse to take it Fasting, since the Decoction which I have already acknowledged to be a good Diuretick, meeting at that Time little or no Obstructions (the Passage being pretty free) would force its Way with greater Ease, towards facilitating the Separation of the Serum, its Secretion through the urinary Organs, force perhaps some Gravel or small Stones through the Ureters into the Bladder, or from the Bladder through the Urethra, but never make the least Impression on a Stone of a larger Volume, otherwise than (if it be of friable Texture, by increasing the Impetuosity of the Urine, thereby the Stone is extraordinarily agitated) to break that Texture, and reduce that large Stone into several small ones.

These Medicines (says again Mrs. *Stephen's*) causes much Pain at first; and well they may, when they prove to be a Bane to the digestive Faculty, a Clog to the Stomach, and to irritate the Fibres of its Membranes so far, as to cause often a Convulsion in those Parts; Mrs. *Stephen's* would then have, her Patient take some Opiates or other, without mentioning what sort of Opiate, if Purgative or Corroborative; unless he means by an Opiate, a Narcotick to ease the Pain, stupify the Part, and take away the Sense thereof: For I know one *Leicester*, a very learned Apothecary, Native of *Ireland*, who had the Impudence to face me, that there are no other Opiates in the Pharmacy, than the different Preparations of the *Opium*, from whence, says he, the name of Opiates is derived, I may perhaps find some other Occasion to give the Publick some new Instances of his Ignorance.

The Lenitive Electuary prescribed by Mrs. *Stephen's* in Case some of her Patients were to be Costive, during the

the Use of her Medicine, is a Secret not worth much Money, and such Advice is not worth the Fee of that famous *French Quack*, Inspector of Urine, so well known some Years ago among the French themselves, by the nick Name of *Doctor Pisscure*, the Doctor of Piss or Urine; for every body knows without the Advice of a Physician, that they must take some Laxative, when they are Costive, but can they grow Costive, when they take her Medicines? Since she confesses, that, tho' the Powder is astringent, the Decoction is laxative, therefore by being taken both at the same Time, they must keep each other in a just Equality of Qualities, and Virtue; but however, says she, if one is more predominant, you must increase the Dose of the other; and if neither will do, we must take the Advice of Physicians: We are pretty well off, truly, to give so much Money for the Discovery of a Secret, whose Success is so uncertain, and whose Operation by Confession of the Person from whom it has been purchased, might be attended with so many Accidents, that instead of curing the Patient of one, it might chance to increase the Number of his Distempers. But, however, Mrs. Stephen's has some Cunning, and for what the French call *One Echappatoire*, and the English, a back Door open to save herself, she cautions, as against a Looseness, which she pretends, would carry off the Medicine, and hinder their Efficacy; and as such nauseous *riopee*, must infallibly, unless when administered to a very strong Constitution, by impairing the Stomach, precipitating the Digestion, and rendering it imperfect, occasion a Looseness; Mrs. Stephen's expects to appease the Clamours of the People against her, for the Inefficacy of her Medicine, by alledging that such Looseness has been the Occasion of it; but will such an Excuse prevail with the most sensible Part of Mankind? Will they believe that Remedies, with which the Substance of the Chile must be impregnated and conveyed by it, thro' its different *Meatus* into the Substance of the Blood, before they can produce any good Effect, might be carried away with the gross Excrements by a Looseness? Unless those Remedies, by

impairing

impairing the Tone of the Stomach, cause themselves that Looseness, and likewise such excessive a one, as to be a strong Indication of the digestive Faculty being entirely extinct; for altho' a Looseness be a sure Diagnostick of the Imperfection of the Coction of the Aliments in the Stomach, it is not always a Sign that there is no Separation made of some Chyle from the gross Excrements, or that the whole Substance of the Aliments are carried away by *Stools*, for then a Looseness should always prove Mortal; therefore I should think, that it would be more agreeable to the Principles of Physick, to believe that a Looseness (not an immoderate One) would rather help than hinder the Efficacy of *Mrs. Stephen's Medicine*, since the longer a Remedy stays in the Stomach, the more it loses of its Virtue; for by its Conflict with the Ferment, which endeavours to change it into Aliments, Part of its saline Corpuscles are entirely destroyed, or by being evaporated, or by being really changed into Aliments, and the rest remaining so weak as not to be capable of making the least Impression on the *Humours*.

" *Mrs. Stephens* orders her Patients to abstain, during the Use of her Medicines from Salt Meats, Red Wines, and Milk, to drink few Liquids, and use little Exercise, that so the Urine may be more strongly impregnated with the Medicines, and the longer retained in the Bladder.

I am of *Mrs. Stephen's* Opinion, that Salt Meats or all other Aliments, capable to over heat the Mass of the Blood, are not proper for a Person afflicted with the Gravel or Stone; but I cannot put Red Wine in the same Rank; for tho' it is the common Opinion, that Red is not so *diuretick* as White Wine, I believe however, that Red would serve better *Mrs. Stephen's* Turn; especially it being a Cardiac and Astringent, to prevent that Looseness, which she seems to be so much afraid of: Besides, as her Remedy is not only a Diuretick, but must be a Dissolvent likewise, methinks that Red Wine being more impregnated with tartarous Particles, than White, it might supply *Mrs. Stephen's* Medicines with some Corrosive Corpuscles, of very great Service

in the Dissolution of the Stone; she forbids likewise her Patients drinking but few Liquids, and using but little Exercise, that the Urine might be more impregnated with the Medicines, and the longer retained in the Bladder: The drinking but few Liquids (and in Fact I don't know, what else we could Drink but Liquids) and using but little Exercise, is not always sure Expedient to hinder the too frequent Evacuation of the Urine, since it is not always the Quantity of Urine, but its Acrimony irritating the *Sphincter vesicae* which Causes a frequent Evacuation: It is not always the Quantity of Drink that occasions the Quantity of Urine, but often the Constitution of the Body; a Person of an excessive hot Constitution evacuates a lesser Quantity of Urine, than those of a cooler, the greater Part of the Serum of a hot Constitution being absorbed by native Heat, and the great Effervency of the Humours it circulates with; the Urine of a weak Constitution is likewise in a lesser Quantity, because the Pores of the Body being much opened, Part of the Serum is evacuated through Sweats or insensible Perspiration.

Ridiculous Precautions used by Mrs. Stephens in administering her MEDICINES.

“ **W**HERE the Person, says she, is aged, of a weak Constitution, or much reduced by loss of Appetite or Pain, the Powder must have a greater Proportion of the calcined Snails, than according to the foregoing Direction, and this Proportion may be increased suitable to the Nature of the Case, till there be equal Parts of the two Ingredients.

The ridiculous Notion which has so long prevailed among the Vulgar, and of which we have not seen yet any good Effect, has certainly induced Mrs. Stephen's to add a greater Quantity of *Snails* to her Powder, when her Patient is of a weak Constitution, without considering that by the Calcination, this must have changed their Qualities, and that by a different Position of the Angles of their saline Corpuscles; those which

were

were Alkalines, must have Corrosive, or else wou'd be of no Efficacy in her Medicine, administred not as an Anodyne, but as a strong Dissolvent: If she could find a Vehicle to her Powder which could hinder its Corrosive Quality, till it comes to the Secretion, such expedient would be of some Service in a weak Constitution; but to say, that by lessening the Quantity of a Dissolvent and encreasing the other, is a judicious Precaution; it is trifling with the Publick, unless she will confess, that there is no corrosive Quality but in her Egg-Shell, and that the Snails are added to it as a Corrective, to hinder the too great Impetuosity of its corrosive Corpuscles: Besides, she does not consider, that this Precaution destroys her System; for if the Corpuscles can effect the Constitution of the Patient, they must be Active on the substance of the Blood, thro' which they pass to the Kidneys; and if they are, what else can be expected from it, but in process of Time, a fixation of the Humours, and strange disorders throughout the whole Mass? For my part, I had thought till now, that those Corpuscles were kept inactive, till they came to the Stone, to which they were directed.

“ Instead of these Herbs and Roots (continues Mrs. Stephens) I have sometimes used others, as Mallows, Marsh-Mallows, Yarrow, red and white, Dandelion, Water Cresses and Horse Reddish Root, but do not know of any material Difference.

Really I believe her, since every body that has the least Knowledge of Simples, will agree, that these are as good Diureticks to the full as those before-mentioned; and I'll insist again in this Place, that the Decoction (the Ball of Soap excepted) is the only good Preparation in her whole Medicine; for if there is any Thing capable to cause that immoderate Looseness, some seem to be afraid of, it must be the Soap.

This is Mrs. Stephens's manner of giving the Powder and Decoction.

“ As to the Pills, says she, their chief Use is in Fits of the Gravel, attended with Pains in the Back, and Vomiting, and in suppression of Urine from a stoppage in the Ureters; in these Cases the Person is to

“ take five Pills every Hour Day and Night when awake, till the Pain be removed.

I would ask *Mrs. Stephens*, or her Patrons, if there is ever any Fit of the Gravel without being attended her the greatest Part, if not always, with all the fore-mentioned Symptoms? That she uses that Restriction, attended with Pains in the Back, &c. And if there was, would then her Pills be of no Use in such Fits, or would any of her other Preparations ease the Patient? For it is what she is indispensably obliged to let us know; but however, when the Fit is attended with those Symptoms, the Person is to take five Pills every Hour Day and Night. She supposes then, that not one; or even three or five, or perhaps twenty Doses, are sufficient to give Ease.

One thing worthy of our Notice in *Mr^s. Stephens*'s Direction, is, that she would have us take those Pills only when awake. Take five Pills every Hour Day and Night, says she, when awake; a very reasonable Precaution! Has then *Mrs. Stephens* ever heard of any body taking any Thing, especially Physick, when asleep? or has she ever known any of her Patients that could sleep in the violent Tortures of the Gravel, such as she is pleased to represent; for my part, I have always believed that the Fit was over, when the Patient could take some Repose, and if that whole Cargo of Pills are administered to appease the Fit, I don't see why he would be awaken'd to take them, when he is no more in need of them; for if they are administered likewise, to prevent the Formation of the Gravel and Stone, as she pretends, methinks the Patient should not be obliged to disturb his Rest, and might chuse more convenient Time for it.

COROLLARIUM.

IT results from what I have said, of the Disposition of the urinary Organs, of the Manner of Secretion, Filtration, Evacuation, and the different Qualities of the Urine; of the Causes both remote and immediate of the Gravel and Stone, of their Formation in the

the Kidneys and Bladder, of their constituent Parts, of their different Texture, Bigness and Number, of the Fit or Paroxysm, of the different Symptoms, the Diagnostick and Prognostick, of that cruel and dangerous Malady, &c. That it is impossible to find out a Medicine, or a Dissolvent for a Stone in the Kidneys and Bladder, especially if the Stone is of any considerable Bigness, and so compact in its Texture, as to be capable to resist the Impetuosity of the Urine: That therefore Mrs. *Stephens's* Medicine is an Imposition on the Publick; for if a Dissolvent for the Stone could be found, her's, after the exact Analysis we have made of it, will never be accounted such by any judicious Person. It is true, an ingenious Physician has been so complaisant to present the Publick with a Compilation of a hundred and fifty five Cases, which he calls, a *View of the present Evidences, for and against Mrs. Stephens's Medicine as a Solvent for the Stone*: But it is very easy to discern through his affected Impartiality, that he favours the *Lady* as much as possible; tho', among so vast a Number of Evidences he is pleased to produce in her Defence, very few of them pronounce affirmatively; but suppose, that even ten in twenty were to pronounce affirmatively, and declare that they have been cured by using Mrs. *Stephens's* Medicine; are not the ten others left Uncured a sufficient Evidence against the infallible Efficacy of her Medicines, and therefore no Specifick? Since a Specifick must cure in all Cases, even the most difficult, as it was set forth at first.

That Mrs. *Stephens's* Medicine is not a Specifick, and does not cure in all Cases, is evident by her own Friend's Confession of an infinite Number of Cases, in which it has miscarried, and which, were I to relate here, would render my Work too voluminous; therefore I'll content myself with a few of them extracted from Dr. *Hartley's View* of the present Evidence, &c.

C A S E XII.

Mr. Cutler in *Wapping-Dock-Street, Wapping.*

HE says in a Letter dated *February 1, 1738-9,*
 “ That he has taken seven of Mrs. Stephens’s
 “ Balls (and Powders in Proportion I suppose) is nei-
 “ ther better nor worse, has voided neither Grit nor
 “ Stone, and that his Illness was still a violent Pain in
 “ his Back and in making of Water.

This is a direct Negative, which proves plainly that
 Mrs. Stephens’s Medicine is not a Specifick for the
 Stone, since the Patient declares, that he received not
 Benefit from it. Let us examine the following one,
 which might chance to prove more favourable to the
Stephenists.

C A S E XIII.

Mrs. Killick, Wife to Mr. Killick a Surgeon, in
Great Russel Street.

“ **A** BOUT five Years ago she was much afflicted
 “ with Pains in the Neck of the Bladder, she
 “ made bloody Matter two or three times, once had a
 “ Suppression of Urine for two Days; Mr. Killick then
 “ passed the Catheter and found a Stone in the Bladder
 “ she took Mrs. Stephens’s Powders for about a Month
 “ and her Water about that Time deposited much Sed-
 “ diment, which became very hard when dry; She
 “ was much better, tho’ not quite free from Pains, for
 “ about two Months after the use of the Powders; and
 “ then died of a Fever.

This Case does likewise very little for Mrs. Stephens
 for it does not prove that the Patient voided, during the
 use of the Powders, any gravellous or petrified Sub-
 stance, but only that the Urine deposited much Sedi-
 ment, which is a common *Phænomenon*, and might
 have

have happened without the help of the Powders; which Evacuation eased the Patient, but not freed her quite from Pains; and she died in two Months after, of Fever: Some ill minded Persons wou'd perhaps lay the Death to Mrs. *Stephens's* Charge, and pretend that the Fever was occasioned by the frequent use of the Powders, which had so disordered the Tone of the stomach and imbecillitated the digestive Faculty, as to render the Coction of the Aliments imperfect, and thereby so infected the Mass of the Blood by an extraordinary Quantity of heterogeneous Corpuscle, as to cause such an extraordinary Efficacy of the Humours, not to be conquered by the most proper Remedies; tho' Mr. *Hartley* pretends, *That this Case favours the Medicines in the first Enquiry*; which is, that Mrs. *Stephens's* Medicines do not generate the Stone. For my Part, I am apt to think, that if such Things were possible, and it could be supposed, that those Powders accompany the Serum in the Secretion, when it is once separated from those Spirits, which keep it in a perpetual Agitation, while it circulated with the Blood, it might chance, when it acquires more Repose to congregate itself, or form the Gravel or Stone, or at least a sandy Substance, which might have caused the thick Sediment in this Case.

The following Case is another very strong Negative of the Efficacy of Mrs. *Stephens's* Medicines.

C A S E. XIX.

*Mr. Blenclave of Marston, near Brackley,
Northamptonshire.*

IN June, 1735, I had a Stoppage of Urine with Pain and Wretching, afterwards became subject to make bloody Matter upon Riding, consulted an eminent Physician, who judged that he had a Stone in the Kidney, too large to pass; took his Medicines for a Year. About *Christmas*, 1736, took Mrs. *Stephens's* Powders with an Herb Tea for a Week, “ they

“ they were so diuretick, and made him so costive
 “ that he was forced to leave them off without any
 “ Benefit, and has had greater Sharpness of Urine
 “ and Pain in his Kidneys ever since. Mr. *Hartley* ex-
 cuses the Inefficacy of Mrs. *Stephens* in this Case, on
 Mr. *Blenclave*’s not taking the Liquids with the Pow-
 ders, while in other Cases he seems to triumph for the
 Powders alone without the Help of the Liquids.

The XCIIId does more against Mrs. *Stephens*’s Medi-
 cine than any heretofore mention’d, and is as follows

C A S E. XCII.

*Mr. Floyd’s in Maggot’s Court over-against St.
 James’s Church, Piccadilly.*

“ **F**ourteen Years old, had Pains in making Water
 “ violent pressing upon the Neck of the Bladder
 “ frequently has taken Mrs. *Stephen*’s Medicines for
 “ months, but continues to have the same Complaint
 In this Case the Patient neither voids thick Sediment
 Gravel, or Scales of the Stones, but quite the contrary
 for tho’ he has taken for so long as thirteen
 Months Mrs. *Stephens*’s Medicine, continues in the
 same Pains without any Relief; neither was Mr.
Hartley, who relates this Case amongst the rest, pleas-
 to inform us of the Reason of such Inefficacy, for I
 cannot excuse it, as he has done in some other Cause
 on the Preparations not having been taken; since the
 Patient declares, that he has took Mrs. *Stephens*’s Medi-
 cines without Exception.

Upon the whole, it manifestly appears, that Mr.
Stephens’s Medicines are not to be depended upon
 and therefore, if such People are encouraged, we may
 soon expect to see the Nation swarm with Female
 Quacks, and *Nostrum* Imposters.